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For release
Tuesday PM's
February 23, 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

THE COST OF LIVING

January 15, 1943

"Living costs of city workers increased 0.2 percent last month, the smallest monthly advance since February 1941," Secretary of Labor Perkins reported today (Tuesday).

"The cost of goods and services under OPA control on January 15 rose 0.3 percent during the month," she said. The cost of gas, electricity and other services controlled by other government agencies remained unchanged, while prices of goods and services not under any form of governmental control declined for the first time since May. The decrease of 0.3 percent occurred largely because of seasonally lower fruit and vegetable prices.

"The slower rate of advance for the month ending January 15, was largely brought about by two factors. With new crops from the South, prices of a number of fresh fruits and vegetables declined and the usual January clearance sales of men's and women's heavy wool coats and men's suits in many stores throughout the country brought price reductions in clothing. However, prices of coal went up by 2.5 percent, and there were continued slight advances in prices of many staple foodstuffs."

The Bureau of Labor Statistics' cost of living index reflects actual prices in retail stores where families with moderate incomes usually trade. Black market operations or sales to customers who pay bonuses for service cannot, however, be measured.

Food The family food bill advanced 0.2 percent from mid-December to mid-January. Among the principal increases were higher prices for meat which rose 1.1 percent. Beef, veal, pork and lamb prices went up less than 1 percent, while prices of poultry and fish, used by many families as substitutes for red meats, advanced 3.3 percent and 2.9 percent respectively. Prices of fresh milk rose 1.4 percent on the average, with higher prices for delivered milk in 8 cities and higher store prices in 13. The usual winter increases were reported for cabbage, green beans, apples, sweet potatoes, onions, and white potatoes. Among the fresh vegetables not under OPA control, however, lettuce prices dropped seasonally by over 6 percent, while carrots and spinach moved downward contraseasonally by 22 and 6 percent. Prices of oranges, grapefruits, and bananas, all under OPA control, declined seasonally. Prices of fats and oils rose 0.7 percent. Thrifty housewives are meeting this rise in part by selling waste fats back to their butchers.

The following table shows the trend of food prices from December 15 to January 12.

<u>Group</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>	
	Dec. 15, 1942 to	May 12, 1942 to
	<u>Jan. 12, 1943</u>	<u>Jan. 12, 1943</u>
ALL FOODS	+ .2	+ 9.4
Foods under direct control January 12, 1943	+ .6	+ 7.4
Controlled on May 18, 1942	+ .6	+ 1.8
Brought under control since May 18, 1942 <u>1/</u>	+ .3	+18.7
Foods not under direct control, January 12, 1943	-2.3	+27.2

1/ Includes peanut butter placed under control on May 18, exempted from control in August, and new ceilings set in December.

On January 12 the Bureau's index of food costs stood 33 percent above the 1935-39 average, 9.4 percent above May 12, and 14 percent above a year ago.

Fuel, electricity and ice Costs of fuel, electricity and ice rose 0.9 percent over the month. Anthracite and bituminous coal ceilings were revised upward by OPA to compensate the retailer for the higher prices of coal at the mine. In addition, a Federal transportation tax on coal caused a slight increase. Fuel oil prices advanced in several cities as a result of expenses incurred by dealers in complying with the rationing program.

Clothing Clothing prices remained unchanged on the average in the large cities of the country between December 15 and January 15, 1943. January clearance sales of men's and women's heavy woolen suits and coats brought about the decreases in 11 cities. Elsewhere, however, men's and women's wool coats returned to ceiling levels after December sales. Higher prices for shoes and shoe repairs were also reported. Goods of the quality previously priced were not available in some parts of the country and clothing costs increased because customers were obliged to buy goods in higher price lines.

Housefurnishings Housefurnishing costs showed no change between December 15 and January 15. Birmingham, where prices of sheets advanced, was the only city reporting increased prices for household goods, while declines in prices of sheets were noted in New York, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh. Part-wool blankets were also lower than in December in several cities.

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Percentage Change in the Cost of Specified Articles of Clothing and
Housefurnishings Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers
in Large Cities of the United States

Article	Percentage Change			
	Dec. 15, 1942	May 15, 1942	Dec. 15, 1941	Sept. 15, 1939
	to	to	to	to
	Jan. 15, 1943	Jan. 15, 1943	Jan. 15, 1943	Jan. 15, 1943
Men's Clothing:				
Work trousers, cotton	+0.1	0	+12.3	+37.7
Overalls, cotton	0	-0.8	+11.9	+47.2
Work shirts, cotton	0	-0.7	+12.7	+51.2
Business shirts	-0.2	+0.4	+13.0	+27.4
Street shoes	+0.3	+0.4	+10.3	+28.6
Work shoes	+0.4	0	+10.4	+32.1
Topcoats	-0.7	+0.7	+10.8	+22.0
Overcoats	+0.5	<u>1/</u>	+9.4	+20.1
Wool suits	-0.7	-0.9	+13.2	+30.5
Women's Clothing:				
Fur trimmed coats	-2.7	<u>1/</u>	+2.2	+14.5
Heavy plain coats	+0.3	<u>1/</u>	+5.3	+12.7
Wash dresses (percale)	+0.8	-1.8	+12.9	+64.4
Panties	-0.1	-1.1	+8.3	+24.1
Shoes	+0.2	-0.5	+6.3	+14.1
Housefurnishings:				
Living room suites, inexp.	0	0	+3.0	+40.8
Bedroom suites, medium	0	-0.3	+2.0	+24.4
Rugs, Axminster	0	-0.2	+3.9	+23.9
Sheets, 64 x 64	-0.9	-1.4	+12.3	+52.2
Blankets, wool	0	<u>1/</u>	+7.9	+23.6

1/ Data for May not available.

Miscellaneous goods and services Miscellaneous goods and services rose 0.3 percent. Higher charges for medical services were reported in Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Houston, San Francisco and Seattle. Newspaper rates advanced in Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, and Philadelphia.

The relative importance of gasoline in cities on the Eastern Seaboard, as used in computing the index, was reduced to allow for decreased consumption caused by the lowered value of ration coupons and the ban on pleasure driving.

Rents Rents were not surveyed in January, as an economy measure. Since last September when rent control had become established in most large cities, rents have varied little from month to month in the 21 cities covered in the Bureau's monthly cost of living index. The Bureau's regular survey of rents will be made in March.

Table 1. PERCENT OF CHANGE IN THE COST OF ALL GOODS PURCHASED BY WAGE EARNERS
AND LOWER-SALARIED WORKERS IN LARGE CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES
FOR SPECIFIED DATES

Area and City	Percent of Change	
	January 15, 1942	December 15, 1940
	to January 15, 1943	to January 15, 1943
Average: Large Cities	+7.7	+19.8
New England:		
Boston	+8.6	+20.0
Middle Atlantic:		
Buffalo	+8.5	+22.7
New York	+8.6	+13.7
Philadelphia	+8.2	+20.8
Pittsburgh	+7.7	+19.4
East North Central:		
Chicago	+6.8	+18.4
Cincinnati	+7.2	+20.3
Cleveland	+7.3	+20.7
Detroit	+5.7	+19.9
West North Central:		
Kansas City	+7.3	+19.5
Minneapolis	+6.3	+16.4
St. Louis	+6.7	+18.1
South Atlantic:		
Baltimore	+7.6	+22.0
Savannah	+8.6	+23.4
Washington, D. C.	+7.5	+19.8
East South Central:		
Birmingham	+5.3	+18.9
West South Central:		
Houston	+6.2	+16.9
Mountain:		
Denver	+7.5	+19.4
Pacific:		
Los Angeles	+8.9	+20.9
San Francisco	+9.3	+22.5
Seattle	+7.7	+23.2

Table 2. Percent of Change between DECEMBER 15, 1942 and JANUARY 15, 1943
in the Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried
Workers in Large Cities of the United States by Groups of Items

Area and City	All Items 1/	Food 2/	Clothing 3/	Fuel, electricity and ice 4/	House- furnish- ings 5/	Mis- cella- neous 6/
Average: Large Cities	+0.2	+0.2	0	+0.9	0	+0.3
New England						
Boston	0	-0.2	-1.1	+1.6	0	0
Middle Atlantic						
Buffalo	+1.0	+1.8	-0.3	+1.4	0	+1.1
New York	+0.4	+0.6	+0.3	+1.4	-0.2	+0.4
Philadelphia	0	-0.2	-0.1	+1.4	-0.1	+0.1
Pittsburgh	+0.6	+1.4	-0.1	+0.2	-0.2	+0.1
East North Central						
Chicago	+0.1	0	-0.4	+0.8	0	+0.4
Cincinnati	-0.2	-0.4	0	+0.3	0	+0.1
Cleveland	+0.2	-0.1	+0.6	+0.7	0	+0.3
Detroit	-0.3	-1.4	+0.5	+0.2	0	+0.7
West North Central						
Kansas City	+0.1	+0.1	-0.2	+1.0	0	0
Minneapolis	-0.2	-0.6	+0.1	+0.8	0	0
St Louis	-0.4	-1.0	-0.4	+0.1	0	0
South Atlantic						
Baltimore	+0.7	+1.3	0	+1.2	0	+0.1
Savannah	+0.9	+1.6	0	+2.6	0	0
Washington, D. C.	+0.3	+0.8	-0.1	+1.9	-0.1	0
East South Central						
Birmingham	+0.3	+0.9	-0.1	+0.1	+0.2	0
West South Central						
Houston	0	+0.3	-0.9	+0.2	0	+0.1
Mountain						
Denver	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	0	+0.1
Pacific						
Los Angeles	-0.2	-1.0	+0.6	0	0	+0.3
San Francisco	+0.4	+0.9	+0.2	0	0	+0.1
Seattle	+0.1 5/	-0.1	-0.1	0	0	+0.5 5/

1/ Rents not surveyed in January. See text of report.

2/ Based on data for 51 cities.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

5/ Indexes for Seattle revised:

Oct. 15, 1942 All items 124.0; Miscellaneous 118.3

Nov. 15, 1942 All items 124.7; Miscellaneous 118.8

Dec. 15, 1942 All items 125.6; Miscellaneous 119.2

Table 3.

Indexes of the Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried
Workers in Large Cities of the United States by Groups of Items,
January 15, 1943
(Average 1935-39 = 100)

Area and City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House- furnish- ings	Mis- cella- neous
Average: Large Cities	120.6 ^{1/}	133.0 ^{2/}	125.9 ^{3/}	107.3 ^{4/}	123.7 ^{3/}	113.1 ^{3/}
New England:						
Boston	118.9	130.5	121.5	118.3	118.2	111.1
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	124.8	137.9	126.5	105.0	125.0	120.1
New York	119.8	133.1	126.6	110.7	117.7	112.0
Philadelphia	119.7	130.2	125.8	105.2	122.3	113.7
Pittsburgh	120.7	133.4	128.0	109.6	121.5	112.6
East North Central:						
Chicago	119.6	129.9	120.8	104.5	119.6	112.2
Cincinnati	119.8	131.0	130.3	102.8	125.1	112.3
Cleveland	123.1	134.6	129.0	113.1	123.9	113.5
Detroit	121.0	130.0	127.7	107.5	120.8	115.4
West North Central:						
Kansas City	117.8	127.3	122.3	107.1	117.0	114.0
Minneapolis	118.0	129.1	126.1	99.8	124.3	115.0
St. Louis	119.3	133.1	126.4	106.3	116.3	111.0
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	122.6	139.1	125.8	106.0	127.6	113.0
Savannah	125.3	139.8	127.6	112.5	119.9	115.8
Washington, D.C.	119.4	133.8	131.7	105.8	129.0	115.7
East South Central:						
Birmingham	121.2	131.4	126.7	100.3	119.3	113.0
West South Central:						
Houston	119.5	134.8	125.6	93.1	122.2	112.0
Mountain:						
Denver	119.6	132.6	123.5	99.6	121.9	113.2
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	123.6	141.4	128.3	94.2	118.4	114.8
San Francisco	124.5	141.3	125.6	94.1	119.2	119.6
Seattle	125.7	143.5	128.1	100.6	119.6	119.8

^{1/} Rents not surveyed in January. See text of report.

^{2/} Based on data for 51 cities.

^{3/} Based on data for 21 cities.

^{4/} Based on data for 34 cities.

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For immediate release

Thursday, March 18, 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

THE COST OF LIVING

February 15, 1943

Living costs of city workers advanced 0.2 percent in the month ending February 15, 1943, Secretary of Labor Perkins reported today (Thursday), bringing the cost of living to a level 22.6 percent above August 15, 1939, the month before the outbreak of the war in Europe.

"The rise of 0.5 percent in food costs was primarily responsible for the advance, but increases in service charges and higher coal prices also contributed to the rise," she said.

"The cost of goods and services under OPA control on February 15 remained unchanged. The cost of gas, electricity and services controlled by other government agencies declined 0.3 percent because of a sharp decline in rates charged for gas in Chicago, while prices of goods and services not under any form of governmental control increased 1.7 percent."

Food: The average increase for all foods from mid-January to mid-February was 0.5 percent. Prices for fresh fruits and vegetables went up with increased buying because of short supplies of canned goods and in anticipation of rationing effective on March 1. The larger-than-usual seasonal decline of 13.5 percent in egg prices was primarily responsible for holding down the overall increase in food costs. The average cost of food other than eggs rose by 1.5 percent.

Reports from retailers indicate limited supplies of meats, butter, most canned fruits and vegetables, shortening, tea and coffee. The Bureau's index of food prices does not completely reflect all the higher costs which are due to necessary shifts in buying different kinds of food or buying at higher priced stores because of short supplies, which at the present time cannot be measured statistically.

Clothing: Clothing prices remained unchanged, on the average, in the large cities of the country. Clearance sales brought decreases in men's and women's heavy woolen coats in many of the 21 cities covered in February. In several cities, however, these decreases were counterbalanced by the disappearance of articles of the quality previously priced, making it necessary to buy goods at higher prices. Relatively large increases in prices of men's work shoes were reported from three cities, and prices of men's suits rose in five cities.

Housefurnishings: Housefurnishings costs rose 0.2 percent. The cost of blankets increased in several cities because blankets in the lower-price lines were not available. Prices of sheets rose in 4 cities and prices of living room suites in 2 cities.

Percentage Change in the Cost of Specified Articles of Clothing and Housefurnishings Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers in Large Cities of the United States

Article	Percentage Change			
	Jan. 15, 1943	May 15, 1942	Feb. 15, 1942	Sept. 15, 1939
	to Feb. 15, 1943	to Feb. 15, 1943	to Feb. 15, 1943	to Feb. 15, 1943
Men's Clothing:				
Topcoats	-0.3	+0.4	+11.9	+21.6
Overcoats	-2.3	1/	+10.5	+17.4
Wool suits	+0.4	-0.5	+9.1	+31.0
Work trousers, cotton	0	0	+5.1	+37.7
Overalls, cotton	0	-0.8	+3.7	+47.2
Work shirts, cotton	0	-0.7	+4.5	+51.2
Business shirts	0	+0.4	+4.5	+27.4
Street shoes	0	+0.4	+4.5	+28.6
Work shoes	+0.5	+0.5	+4.7	+32.7
Women's Clothing:				
Fur trimmed coats	-1.0	1/	+10.2	+13.3
Heavy plain coats	-1.1	1/	+10.8	+11.5
Wash dresses (percale)	0	-1.8	+7.1	+64.4
Panties	0	-1.1	+3.3	+24.1
Shoes	+0.1	-0.4	+2.8	+14.2
Housefurnishings:				
Living room suites, inexp.	+0.1	+0.1	+1.3	+40.9
Bedroom suites, medium	-0.3	-0.6	+0.6	+24.0
Rugs, Axminster	0	-0.2	+1.8	+23.9
Sheets, 64 x 64	+0.9	-0.5	+3.8	+53.6
Blankets, wool	+2.9	1/	+7.7	+27.2

1/ Data for May not available.

Fuel, electricity and ice: Coal prices went up in 18 of the 34 cities surveyed, as dealers passed on to their customers the transportation tax which became effective in December and readjusted their selling prices to allow for higher prices at the mine which were authorized in January. In New York City, where coal prices rose sharply from December 15 to January 15, there was a slight decline this month. Chicago gas rates were lowered by nearly 15 percent on the order of the State Commerce Commission.

Miscellaneous: Increases in service charges of one kind or another were reported from a majority of the cities covered. They included advances in charges for medical services and hospital room rates, higher charges for beauty and barber shop services, for motion picture admissions, and increases in launderers' rates.

Rents: Rents were not surveyed in February. Since last September when rent control had become established in most large cities, rents have varied little from month to month in the 21 cities covered in the Bureau's monthly cost of living index. The Bureau's regular survey of rents will be made in March.

Table 1.

Percent of Change in the Cost of All Goods Purchased by Wage Earners
and Lower-Salaried Workers in Large Cities of the United States for
Specified Dates

Area and City	Percent of Change			
	Feb. 15, 1942	Aug. 15, 1939	Jan. 1, 1941	May 15, 1942
	to	to	to	to
	Feb. 15, 1943	Feb. 15, 1943	Feb. 15, 1943	Feb. 15, 1943
Average: Large Cities	+7.1	+22.6	+19.9	+4.2
New England:				
Boston	+7.1	+22.5	+20.0	+4.9
Middle Atlantic:				
Buffalo	+7.5	+26.8	+22.6	+3.7
New York	+8.2	+21.3	+18.9	+6.0
Philadelphia	+7.4	+22.1	+20.4	+4.1
Pittsburgh	+7.1	+22.8	+19.4	+4.3
East North Central:				
Chicago	+7.0	+21.9	+18.9	+3.3
Cincinnati	+6.5	+23.2	+20.4	+3.5
Cleveland	+7.4	+23.7	+21.3	+4.1
Detroit	+5.8	+24.0	+20.9	+2.8
West North Central:				
Kansas City	+6.8	+20.4	+20.6	+4.0
Minneapolis	+6.1	+20.0	+17.5	+3.2
St. Louis	+6.2	+22.2	+18.7	+3.7
South Atlantic:				
Baltimore	+6.4	+23.9	+21.4	+3.5
Savannah	+8.1	+27.1	+24.5	+4.4
Washington, D. C.	+6.3	+20.7	+19.1	+3.7
East South Central:				
Birmingham	+4.2	+23.1	+19.4	+2.2
West South Central:				
Houston	+5.8	+19.8	+18.2	+3.8
Mountain:				
Denver	+7.6	+22.0	+20.3	+4.1
Pacific:				
Los Angeles	+7.2	+22.2	+19.8	+4.0
San Francisco	+9.1	+25.5	+22.4	+6.0
Seattle	+6.9	+25.6	+23.4	+4.0

Table 2.

Percent of Change between JANUARY 15, 1943 and FEBRUARY 15, 1943
in the Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried
Workers in Large Cities of the United States by Groups of Items

Area and City	All items 1/	Food 2/	Clothing 3/	Fuel, electricity and ice 4/	House- furnish- ings 5/	Mis- cella- neous 6/
Average: Large Cities	+0.2	+0.5	0	-0.2	+0.2	+0.4
New England:						
Boston	0	-0.1	-0.4	+0.1	+1.0	+0.1
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	+0.2 5/	+0.6 5/	-0.2	0	-0.2	+0.2
New York	+0.3	+0.2	-0.1	-0.1	+0.3	+0.9
Philadelphia	-0.3	-0.5	-0.2	0	+0.1	0
Pittsburgh	+0.1	+0.3	-0.7	0	+0.1	0
East North Central:						
Chicago	+0.6	+1.7	+0.4	-3.1	0	0
Cincinnati	+0.1	+0.1	-0.1	+0.7	+0.1	0
Cleveland	+0.5	+1.0	-0.1	+0.1	0	+0.6
Detroit	+0.9	+1.8	+0.1	+0.5	0	+1.2
West North Central:						
Kansas City	+0.8	+1.6	+0.1	+0.6	0	+0.4
Minneapolis	+0.5	+1.2	0	+0.2	-0.4	0
St. Louis	+0.5	+1.0	+0.6	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	-0.2	-0.9	+0.5	+0.3	+0.7	0
Savannah	+0.7	+1.1	+0.1	0	0	+1.1
Washington, D. C.	-0.3	-1.2	+0.5	0	+0.5	+0.2
East South Central:						
Birmingham	+0.1	+0.2	-0.2	0	+0.3	0
West South Central:						
Houston	+0.9	+2.3	+0.2	+0.1	0	+0.2
Mountain:						
Denver	+0.6	+1.0	-0.1	+0.4	0	+0.6
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	-0.7 6/	-1.6 6/	0	0	0	-0.2
San Francisco	+0.1	+0.3	0	0	0	0
Seattle	+0.2	+0.3	-0.1	+0.1	0	+0.5

1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates - March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

2/ Based on data for 51 cities.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

5/ Indexes for Buffalo revised: January 15, 1943 All items 124.6; Food 137.3

6/ Indexes for Los Angeles revised: January 15, 1943 All items 123.7; Food 141.8

Table 3.

Indexes of the Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and
Lower-Salaried Workers in Large Cities of the United States
by Groups of Items, FEBRUARY 15, 1943
(Average 1935-39=100.0)

Area and City	All items 1/	Food 2/	Clothing 3/	Fuel, electricity and ice 4/	House- furnish- ings 3/	Mis- cella- neous 3/
Average: Large Cities,	120.9	133.6	125.9	107.1	123.9	113.5
New England:						
Boston	118.9	130.4	121.0	118.4	119.4	111.2
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	124.9	138.1	126.3	105.0	124.8	120.4
New York	120.1	133.4	126.5	110.6	118.0	113.0
Philadelphia	119.4	129.6	125.5	105.2	122.4	113.7
Pittsburgh	120.8	133.8	127.1	109.8	121.6	112.6
East North Central:						
Chicago	120.3	132.1	121.3	101.3	119.6	112.2
Cincinnati	119.9	131.1	130.2	103.5	125.2	112.3
Cleveland	123.7	135.9	128.9	113.2	123.9	114.2
Detroit	122.1	132.3	127.8	108.0	120.8	116.8
West North Central:						
Kansas City	118.7	129.4	122.4	107.7	117.0	114.4
Minneapolis	119.6	130.7	126.1	100.0	123.8	115.0
St. Louis	119.9	134.4	127.2	106.4	116.4	111.1
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	122.3	137.9	126.4	106.3	128.5	113.0
Savannah	126.2	141.3	127.7	112.5	119.9	117.1
Washington, D. C.	119.0	132.2	132.3	105.8	129.6	115.9
East South Central:						
Birmingham	121.3	131.7	126.4	100.3	119.7	113.0
West South Central:						
Houston	120.6	137.9	125.9	93.2	122.2	112.2
Mountain:						
Denver	120.3	133.9	123.4	100.0	121.9	113.9
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	122.3	139.5	128.3	94.2	118.4	114.6
San Francisco	124.6	141.7	125.8	94.1	119.2	119.6
Seattle	126.0	143.9	128.0	100.7	119.6	120.4

- 1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates - March 15, June 15, September 15,
December 15.
2/ Based on data for 51 cities.
3/ Based on data for 21 cities.
4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

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For immediate release

Wednesday, May 19, 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

JUN 24 1943

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

THE COST OF LIVING

March 15, 1943

Living costs of city workers advanced 1.5 percent in the month ending March 15, 1943, Secretary of Labor Perkins reported today. This rise, which occurred prior to the President's April 8 "hold-the-line" order, brought the level of living costs to 122.8 percent of the 1935-39 average, 5.9 percent above May 1942, and 21.8 percent above January 1941.

"The largest increases were in retail prices of foods, which went up 2.8 percent over the month, and in spring clothing prices," Secretary Perkins said.

"The chief reason for this rise in the cost of food from February 15 to March 15, was an advance averaging 13.2 percent in prices of fresh fruits and vegetables with increases of about 40 percent in cabbage, green beans and sweet potatoes, of 18 percent for white potatoes, and 13 percent for apples.

"These increases reflected heavy demand because of rationing of canned goods, as well as shortages of supply due to the cold weather. In consequence of this market situation, prices of a number of the green vegetables were brought under OPA price control on February 23 and 24. Prices of fresh fish, which went up 8.4 percent, were not under control of the Office of Price Administration.

"The preliminary estimates indicate a smaller increase in food prices from mid-March to mid-April. The final report for April will be ready in about ten days.

"The statistics are based on actual selling prices, regardless of OPA ceilings. The BLS report for March 15 takes into account recent changes in food buying because of rationing and other wartime market conditions, necessitating a delay of several weeks in issuing the report.

"Rents, which are subject to Federal control in all cities covered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports, have varied very little in most areas, and on the average have remained unchanged since December. Other changes include an increase between mid-February and mid-March of 1.1 percent for clothing, 0.8 percent for miscellaneous goods and services, 0.3 percent for housefurnishings, and 0.2 percent for fuel, electricity and ice.

"The changes in the food cost index as of March 15 will improve the future accuracy of the index, but do not affect the figures for earlier months. The changes involve the inclusion of seven additional foods which people are buying in larger quantities, like hamburger, liver and corn syrup; changes in the importance of different foods in the index because of reduced supplies, as in the case of canned vegetables, beef, and bananas; and increases in the weights given quotations from war production cities because of their population growth."

Indexes of Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers in Large Cities of the United States Combined

(1935-39 = 100)

	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1942: March 15	114.3	118.6	123.6	108.9	104.5	121.2	110.1
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: February 15	121.0	133.6	126.2	108.0	107.2	124.1	113.6
March 15	122.8	137.4	127.6	108.0	107.4	124.5	114.5

Percentage Changes in Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers in Large Cities of the United States Combined

	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Feb. 15, 1943							
to Mar. 15, 1943	+1.5	+2.8	+1.1	0	+0.2	+0.3	+0.8
Sept. 15, 1942							
to Mar. 15, 1943	+4.2	+8.5	+1.4	0	+1.1	+0.7	+2.8
Mar. 15, 1942							
to Mar. 15, 1943	+7.4	+15.9	+3.2	-0.8	+2.8	+2.7	+4.0
Jan. 15, 1941							
to Mar. 15, 1943	+21.8	+40.5	+26.7	+2.9	+6.5	+24.4	+12.4
Aug. 15, 1939							
to Mar. 15, 1943	+24.5	+47.0	+27.2	+3.5	+10.2	+23.8	+14.0

Table 1. Percent of Change between FEBRUARY 15, 1943 and MARCH 15, 1943 in the Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers in Large Cities of the United States, by Groups of Items

Area and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+1.5	+2.8 ^{1/}	+1.1 ^{2/}	0 ^{2/}	+0.2 ^{2/}	+0.3 ^{2/}	+0.8 ^{2/}
New England:							
Boston	+1.4	+2.8	+1.6	-0.1	0	+0.2	+0.1
Manchester	<u>3/</u>	+2.5	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	+0.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Portland, Maine	<u>3/</u>	+1.6	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	+1.1	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	+1.1	+2.2	+1.1	0	0	+1.0	+0.2
New York	+1.5	+3.4	+0.3	0	0	+0.3	0
Philadelphia	+1.4	+3.0	+1.1	0	0	+0.1	+0.1
Pittsburgh	+1.5	+2.5	+1.9	0	+0.3	+0.2	+1.0
Scranton	<u>3/</u>	+2.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
East North Central:							
Chicago	+1.4	+2.9	+1.4	0	+0.6	+0.3	+0.3
Cincinnati	+1.7	+3.1	+1.4	-0.1	+0.7	+0.5	+1.1
Cleveland	+1.4	+2.6	+1.2	+0.1	+0.4	+0.4	+0.4
Detroit	+1.5	+2.6	+0.8	-0.1	+0.6	+0.8	+2.0
Indianapolis	<u>3/</u>	+2.7	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	+0.7	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Milwaukee	<u>3/</u>	+2.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	+0.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
West North Central:							
Kansas City	+1.7	+3.3	+1.5	0	+0.2	+0.3	+1.0
Minneapolis	+1.2	+1.8	+0.9	-0.1	0	+0.8	+1.9
St. Louis	+1.6	+3.3	+0.9	0	-0.2	0	+0.5
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta	<u>3/</u>	+3.5	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	+0.5	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Baltimore	+2.0	+4.4	+0.7	+0.1	+0.2	+0.3	+0.4
Jacksonville	<u>3/</u>	+4.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	+0.9	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Norfolk	<u>3/</u>	+2.6	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	+1.1	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Richmond	<u>3/</u>	+2.3	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	+1.0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Savannah	+1.6	+2.7	+1.6	-0.1	+0.4	+0.4	+1.2
Washington, D. C.	+1.7	+3.6	+1.4	0	+0.2	+0.8	+1.0
East South Central:							
Birmingham	+1.2	+2.4	+1.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.4
Memphis	<u>3/</u>	+3.7	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Mobile	<u>3/</u>	+3.7	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
West South Central:							
Houston	+2.2	+3.5	+2.4	0	-1.1	+0.1	+2.8
New Orleans	<u>3/</u>	+4.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Mountain:							
Denver	+1.2	+2.5	+0.6	0	+0.1	-0.1	+0.5
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	+1.4	+2.4	+0.6	-0.1	0	+0.3	+1.4
Portland, Oregon	<u>3/</u>	+1.0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	-0.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
San Francisco	+1.2	+1.4	+1.4	+0.1	0	0	+1.8
Seattle	+0.6	+0.6	+1.2	+0.5	+0.7	+0.2	+0.7

^{1/} Based on data for 56 cities.

^{2/} Based on data for 34 cities.

3/ Monthly data not available.

Table 2. Percentage Changes in Cost of All Goods Purchased by Wage Earners
and Lower-Salaried Workers in Large Cities of the United States
for Specified Periods

Area and City	Percentage Changes				
	Mar. 15, 1942	Aug. 15, 1939	Jan. 1, 1941	May 15, 1942	Sept. 15, 1942
	to Mar. 15, 1943	to Mar. 15, 1943	to Mar. 15, 1943	to Mar. 15, 1943	to Mar. 15, 1943
Average:					
Large Cities	+7.4	+24.5	+21.8	+5.9	+4.2
New England:					
Boston	+8.1	+24.2	+21.7	+6.3	+3.8
Manchester	+9.2	+29.0	+25.9	<u>1</u> /	+5.0
Portland, Maine	+8.1	+25.7	+24.0	<u>1</u> /	+3.5
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+7.3	+28.3	+24.0	+4.9	+4.9
New York	+8.9	+23.2	+20.8	+7.7	+4.9
Philadelphia	+7.7	+24.1	+22.4	+5.8	+3.8
Pittsburgh	+7.7	+24.6	+21.1	+5.9	+4.3
Scranton	+7.5	+25.5	+21.5	<u>1</u> /	+4.6
East North Central:					
Chicago	+7.6	+23.9	+20.8	+5.0	+4.3
Cincinnati	+6.6	+25.4	+22.5	+5.3	+3.4
Cleveland	+7.3	+25.5	+23.0	+5.6	+4.9
Detroit	+5.8	+25.9	+22.8	+4.4	+4.7
Indianapolis	+5.4	+26.0	+21.1	<u>1</u> /	+3.7
Milwaukee	+7.0	+24.3	+21.6	<u>1</u> /	+4.6
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+6.9	+22.4	+22.7	+5.8	+5.2
Minneapolis	+5.9	+21.4	+18.9	+4.4	+3.6
St. Louis	+6.1	+24.2	+20.6	+5.4	+4.5
South Atlantic:					
Atlanta	+8.0	+25.5	+23.2	<u>1</u> /	+4.9
Baltimore	+6.9	+26.4	+23.9	+5.6	+4.2
Jacksonville	+7.6	+28.9	+24.6	<u>1</u> /	+4.5
Norfolk	+6.7	+31.5	+27.8	<u>1</u> /	+5.3
Richmond	+6.9	+23.7	+21.7	<u>1</u> /	+3.4
Savannah	+8.3	+29.1	+26.4	+6.0	+5.0
Washington, D. C.	+6.9	+23.0	+21.4	+5.8	+3.6
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+4.7	+24.7	+20.7	+3.5	+3.4
Memphis	+9.4	+28.4	+25.9	<u>1</u> /	+5.3
Mobile	+3.8	+27.8	+25.5	<u>1</u> /	+4.2
West South Central:					
Houston	+7.1	+22.6	+21.1	+6.3	+4.7
New Orleans	+10.6	+30.5	+27.9	<u>1</u> /	+7.0
Mountain:					
Denver	+7.7	+23.5	+21.8	+5.4	+3.9
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+7.0	+24.0	+21.6	+5.5	+2.4
Portland, Oregon	+8.1	+28.6	+26.2	<u>1</u> /	+3.0
San Francisco	+9.0	+27.0	+23.9	+7.2	+4.5
Seattle	+6.2	+26.6	+24.4	+4.8	+3.5

1/ Data not available.

Table 3. Percent of Change between DECEMBER 15, 1942 and MARCH 15, 1943 in the Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers in Large Cities of the United States, by Groups of Items

Area and City	All items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House- furnish- ings	Mis- cella- neous
Average:							
Large Cities	+2.0	+3.5 ^{1/}	+1.4	0	+1.0	+0.6	+1.5
New England:							
Boston	+1.4	+2.6	+0.4	-0.1	+1.5	+1.3	+0.2
Manchester	+2.8	+4.2	+2.2	-0.1	+1.8	+0.5	+1.2
Portland, Maine	+1.7	+2.4	+1.9	+0.3	+2.8	0	+1.0
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	+2.3	+4.2	+0.7	0	+1.4	+1.2	+2.1
New York	+2.3	+4.3	+0.6	0	+1.3	+0.3	+1.4
Philadelphia	+1.4	+2.3	+1.1	0	+2.1	+0.2	+0.8
Pittsburgh	+2.2	+4.3	+1.4	0	+0.5	+0.2	+1.1
Scranton	+2.3	+3.9	+1.3	-0.3	+4.4	0	+0.3
East North Central:							
Chicago	+2.3	+4.6	+2.0	0	-0.5	+0.4	+1.3
Cincinnati	+1.7	+2.7	+1.6	-0.1	+1.4	+0.7	+1.4
Cleveland	+2.1	+3.5	+2.0	+0.1	+1.1	+0.6	+1.5
Detroit	+2.1	+3.0	+1.7	-0.1	+1.5	+1.2	+3.8
Indianapolis	+2.2 ^{2/}	+2.6 ^{2/}	+2.3	0	+2.4	+1.9	+2.7
Milwaukee	+2.0	+4.2	+1.5	0	+0.2	+0.1	+1.2
West North Central:							
Kansas City	+2.5	+5.1	+1.5	0	+1.8	+0.7	+1.5
Minneapolis	+1.5	+2.4	+1.2	-0.1	+1.0	+0.6	+2.0
St. Louis	+1.7	+3.3	+1.5	0	0	+0.1	+0.5
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta	+3.2	+5.8	+1.5	0	+1.3	+0.3	+3.1
Baltimore	+2.5	+4.9	+1.4	+0.1	+2.0	+1.0	+0.7
Jacksonville	+3.0 ^{3/}	+5.6 ^{3/}	+0.9	+0.2	+2.3	+3.6	+1.5
Norfolk	+3.4	+5.9	+1.1	+0.2	+1.1	+3.8	+2.6
Richmond	+1.6	+3.4	+1.1	-0.7	+1.6	+0.2	+0.6
Savannah	+3.2	+5.5	+2.0	-0.1	+3.2	+1.3	+2.5
Washington, D. C.	+1.9	+3.2	+2.0	0	+2.1	+1.8	+1.9
East South Central:							
Birmingham	+1.7	+3.5	+0.9	+0.7	+0.2	+0.8	+0.4
Memphis	+2.7	+5.6	+0.6	-0.1	0	+0.3	+2.4
Mobile	+2.4	+5.3	+0.8	-0.3	0	0	+1.0
West South Central:							
Houston	+3.3	+6.2	+2.1	+0.1	-0.8	+0.2	+3.2
New Orleans	+4.3	+7.2	+3.0	0	-0.2	+0.5	+2.7
Mountain:							
Denver	+1.9	+3.6	+1.1	0	+0.7	-0.1	+1.2
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	+0.6	0	+1.7	-0.1	0	+0.4	+1.5
Portland, Oreg.	+1.5	+1.8	+2.4	0	-0.2	+0.5	+2.0
San Francisco	+1.7	+2.6	+2.1	+0.1	-2.0	-0.2	+1.9
Seattle	+1.1	+0.8	+2.0	+0.5	+0.8	+0.3	+2.1

^{1/} Based on data for 56 cities

^{2/} Indexes for December 15, 1942 Revised All Items 120.9 - Food 131.4

^{3/} Indexes for December 15, 1942 Revised All Items 123.3 - Food 138.3

Table 4. Indexes of Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers by Groups of Items, JANUARY 15, 1943 through MARCH 15, 1943
(Average 1935-39 = 100.0)
(Some Indexes for January and February Revised)^{1/}

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average, Large Cities:							
January 15	120.7	133.02/	126.0	108.0	107.3	123.8	113.2
February 15	121.0	133.62/	126.2	108.0	107.2	124.1	113.6
March 15	122.8	137.42/	127.6	108.0	107.4	124.5	114.5
Atlanta:							
January 15	3/	132.5	3/	3/	111.9	3/	3/
February 15	3/	133.1	3/	3/	112.1	3/	3/
March 15	123.0	137.7	127.4	106.5	112.7	119.9	117.3
Baltimore:							
January 15	122.6	139.1	125.8	106.7	106.3	127.6	113.1
February 15	122.3	137.9	126.6	106.7	106.6	128.5	113.2
March 15	124.8	144.0	127.5	106.8	106.8	128.9	113.7
Birmingham:							
January 15	121.3	131.4	126.8	120.8	100.2	119.4	113.0
February 15	121.4	131.7	126.6	120.9	100.2	119.9	113.0
March 15	122.8	134.8	128.0	121.2	100.4	120.0	113.4
Boston:							
January 15	118.9	130.5	121.7	105.0	118.1	118.3	111.1
February 15	118.9	130.4	121.4	105.0	118.2	119.5	111.2
March 15	120.6	134.1	123.3	104.9	118.2	119.7	111.3
Buffalo:							
January 15	124.7	137.3	126.6	114.6	105.0	125.2	120.7
February 15	125.0	138.1	126.4	114.6	105.0	125.2	121.1
March 15	126.4	141.2	127.8	114.6	105.0	126.5	121.3
Chicago:							
January 15	119.8	129.9	121.2	114.4	104.5	119.7	112.8
February 15	120.6	132.1	122.0	114.4	102.6	119.8	112.8
March 15	122.3	135.9	123.7	114.4	103.2	120.1	113.1
Cincinnati:							
January 15	119.9	131.0	130.6	105.2	102.5	125.2	112.6
February 15	120.0	131.1	130.6	105.2	103.2	125.4	112.6
March 15	122.0	135.1	132.4	105.1	103.9	126.0	113.8
Cleveland:							
January 15	123.1	134.6	129.1	115.2	113.0	124.0	113.6
February 15	123.8	135.9	129.2	115.2	113.1	124.1	114.4
March 15	125.5	139.5	130.8	115.3	113.5	124.6	114.9
Denver:							
January 15	119.6	132.6	123.7	109.1	99.6	121.9	113.2
February 15	120.3	133.9	123.9	109.1	100.0	121.9	113.9
March 15	121.8	137.2	124.7	109.1	100.1	121.8	114.5
Detroit:							
January 15	121.0	130.0	128.0	114.4	107.7	121.0	115.2
February 15	122.2	132.3	128.3	114.4	108.2	121.2	116.6
March 15	124.0	135.7	129.3	114.3	108.9	122.2	118.9

Table 4 (Continued)

Indexes of Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried
Workers by Groups of Items, JANUARY 15, 1943 through MARCH 15, 1943
(Average 1935-39 = 100.0)
(Some Indexes for January and February Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House- furnish- ings	Mis- cella- neous
Houston:							
January 15	119.6	134.8	125.8	109.0	93.1	122.2	112.0
February 15	120.8	137.9	126.4	109.0	93.2	122.3	112.3
March 15	123.5	142.7	129.4	109.0	92.2	122.4	115.5
Indianapolis:							
January 15	<u>3/</u>	131.3	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	104.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
February 15	<u>3/</u>	131.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	105.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
March 15	123.5	134.8	128.7	115.3	106.1	127.7	117.1
Jacksonville:							
January 15	<u>3/</u>	139.7	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	111.3	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
February 15	<u>3/</u>	140.1	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	111.0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
March 15	127.0	146.0	126.5	112.2	112.0	125.7	116.6
Kansas City:							
January 15	117.8	127.3	122.4	108.4	107.1	117.2	114.1
February 15	118.7	129.4	122.6	108.4	107.7	117.4	114.6
March 15	120.7	133.7	124.5	108.4	107.9	117.8	115.7
Los Angeles:							
January 15	123.7	141.8	128.6	110.0	94.2	118.5	114.8
February 15	122.9	139.5	128.9	110.0	94.2	118.6	114.6
March 15	124.6	142.8	129.7	109.9	94.2	118.9	116.2
Manchester:							
January 15	<u>3/</u>	133.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	122.9	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
February 15	<u>3/</u>	134.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	123.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
March 15	126.2	137.8	130.4	107.6	123.4	121.4	114.3
Memphis:							
January 15	<u>3/</u>	137.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	104.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
February 15	<u>3/</u>	139.6	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	104.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
March 15	125.6	144.8	135.3	115.5	104.4	124.3	110.7
Milwaukee:							
January 15	<u>3/</u>	129.0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	103.9	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
February 15	<u>3/</u>	131.1	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	103.9	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
March 15	120.6	134.0	124.4	108.2	104.1	124.5	114.1
Minneapolis:							
January 15	119.0	129.1	126.2	109.9	99.8	124.4	115.1
February 15	119.6	130.7	126.4	109.9	100.0	124.0	115.1
March 15	121.0	133.0	127.5	109.8	100.0	125.0	117.3
Mobile:							
January 15	<u>3/</u>	139.5	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	103.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
February 15	<u>3/</u>	140.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	103.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
March 15	126.0	145.6	128.0	114.5	103.4	121.4	114.5
New Orleans:							
January 15	<u>3/</u>	144.8	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	96.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
February 15	<u>3/</u>	147.0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	96.3	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
March 15	130.1	153.2	133.2	107.1	96.3	127.4	113.8

Table 4. (Continued)

Indexes of Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried
Workers by Groups of Items, JANUARY 15, 1943 through MARCH 15, 1943
(Average 1935-39 = 100.0)

(Some Indexes for January and February Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House- furnish- ings	Mis- cella- neous
New York:							
January 15	119.8	133.1	126.6	103.2	110.7	117.6	112.0
February 15	120.2	133.4	126.6	103.2	110.6	117.9	113.2
March 15	122.0	138.0	127.0	103.2	110.6	118.3	113.2
Norfolk:							
January 15	<u>3/</u>	139.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	114.9	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
February 15	<u>3/</u>	140.9	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	114.9	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
March 15	128.6	144.5	132.1	108.9	116.2	128.5	123.4
Philadelphia:							
January 15	119.9	130.2	126.0	106.7	105.8	122.4	114.3
February 15	119.7	129.6	125.9	106.7	105.9	122.6	114.4
March 15	121.4	133.5	127.3	106.7	105.9	122.7	114.5
Pittsburgh:							
January 15	120.7	133.4	128.2	107.3	109.8	121.6	112.6
February 15	120.8	133.8	127.5	107.3	109.8	121.8	112.6
March 15	122.6	137.2	129.9	107.3	110.1	122.1	113.7
Portland, Maine:							
January 15	<u>3/</u>	131.7	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	115.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
February 15	<u>3/</u>	132.3	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	115.6	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
March 15	122.1	134.4	126.0	106.2	116.9	120.9	116.4
Portland, Oregon:							
January 15	<u>3/</u>	146.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	116.6	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
February 15	<u>3/</u>	147.0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	116.6	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
March 15	128.7	148.5	128.9	115.2	116.4	121.8	116.4
Richmond:							
January 15	<u>3/</u>	132.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	105.0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
February 15	<u>3/</u>	132.8	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	105.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
March 15	121.2	135.8	132.8	103.9	106.5	127.3	112.4
St. Louis:							
January 15	119.3	133.1	126.6	106.1	106.3	116.3	111.0
February 15	119.9	134.4	127.6	106.1	106.4	116.4	111.1
March 15	121.8	138.9	128.8	106.1	106.2	116.4	111.6
San Francisco:							
January 15	124.5	141.3	126.0	105.9	94.1	119.1	119.6
February 15	124.6	141.7	126.3	105.9	92.2	119.0	119.6
March 15	126.1	143.7	128.1	106.0	92.2	119.0	121.8
Savannah:							
January 15	125.3	139.8	127.8	115.0	112.6	120.3	115.9
February 15	126.2	141.3	128.1	115.0	112.6	120.9	117.3
March 15	128.2	145.1	130.1	114.9	113.1	121.4	118.7
Scranton:							
January 15	<u>3/</u>	133.7	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	103.9	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
February 15	<u>3/</u>	134.0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	103.9	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
March 15	120.5	136.9	128.4	97.5	103.9	122.9	109.7

Table 4. (Continued)

Indexes of Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried
Workers by Groups of Items, JANUARY 15, 1943 through MARCH 15, 1943
(Average 1935-39 = 100.0)
(Some Indexes for January and February Revised)

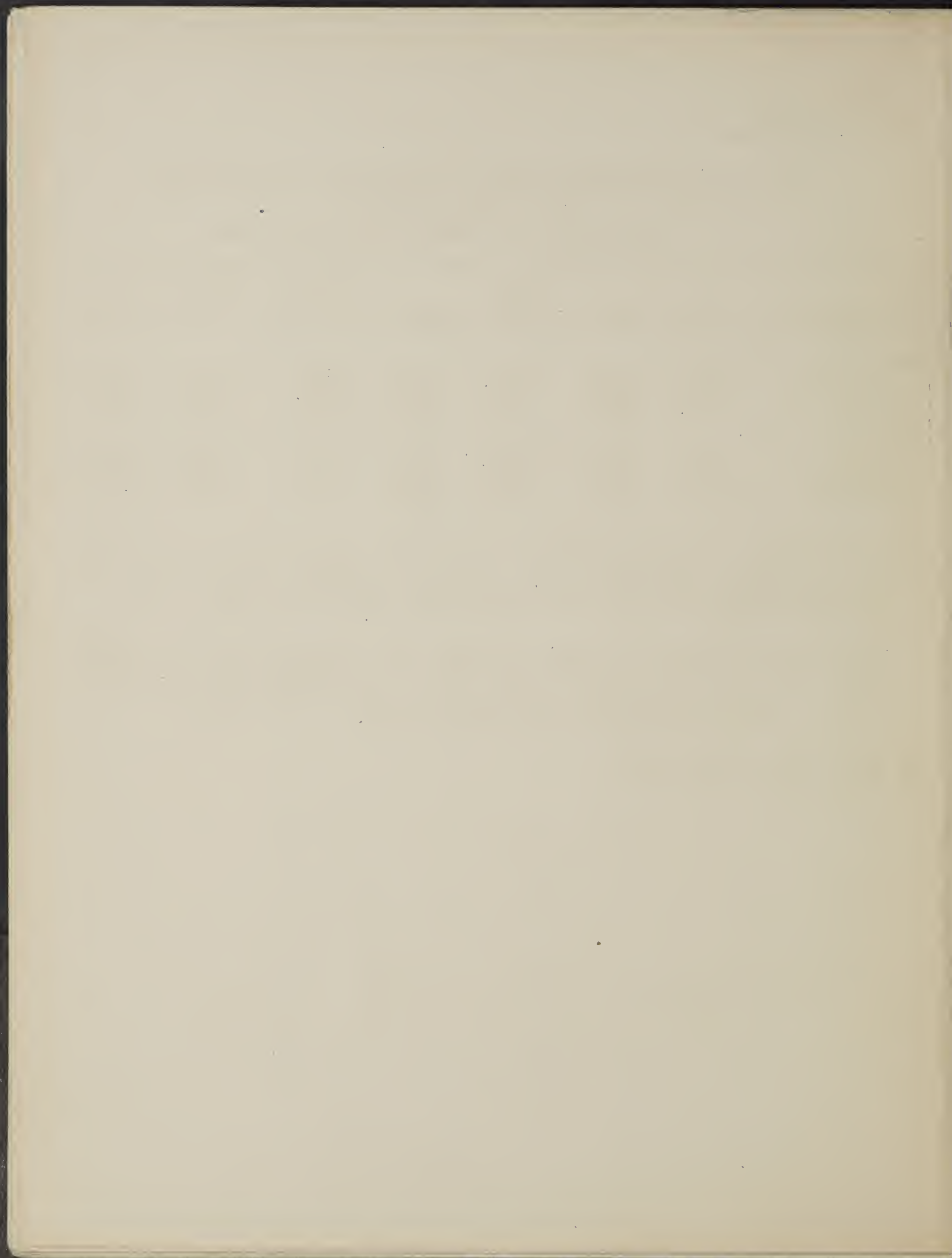
City and Date	All items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House- furnish- ings	Mis- cella- neous
Seattle:							
January 15	125.8	143.5	128.7	109.6	100.6	119.6	119.9
February 15	126.2	143.9	129.2	109.6	100.7	119.7	120.8
March 15	127.0	144.7	130.8	110.1	101.4	119.9	121.7
Washington, D. C.:							
January 15	119.5	133.8	131.9	100.3	105.8	129.4	115.8
February 15	119.3	132.2	132.7	100.3	105.8	130.4	116.7
March 15	121.3	136.9	134.5	100.3	106.0	131.4	117.9

1/ Revisions of the January index for the large cities combined from 120.6 to 120.7, and of the February index from 120.9 to 121.0 were occasioned by the fact that the preliminary figures for January and February were based on data from 21 cities.

— The figures for March for 34 large cities showed that prices had increased somewhat more in the cities which are covered quarterly only. Revisions in the preliminary indexes for January and February for the cities covered monthly were necessary because the quarterly indexes are calculated on the basis of prices for a larger number of goods and services than the monthly indexes.

2/ Based on data for 56 cities

3/ Monthly data not available.



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U.S. Department of Labor

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Washington

THE COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD
MARCH 15, 1943

Living costs of city workers advanced 1.5 per cent in the month ending March 15, 1943, Secretary of Labor Perkins reported today. This rise, which occurred prior to the President's April 8 "hold-the-line" order, brought the level of living costs to 122.8 per cent of the 1935-39 average, 5.9 per cent above May 1942, and 21.8 per cent above January 1941.

"The largest increase was in retail prices of foods, which went up 2.8 per cent over the month, and in spring clothing," Secretary Perkins said.

"The chief reason for this rise in the cost of food was an advance from February 15 to March 15 averaging 13.2 per cent in prices of fresh fruits and vegetables with increase of about 40 per cent in cabbage, green beans and sweet potatoes, of 18 per cent for white potatoes, and 13 per cent for apples.

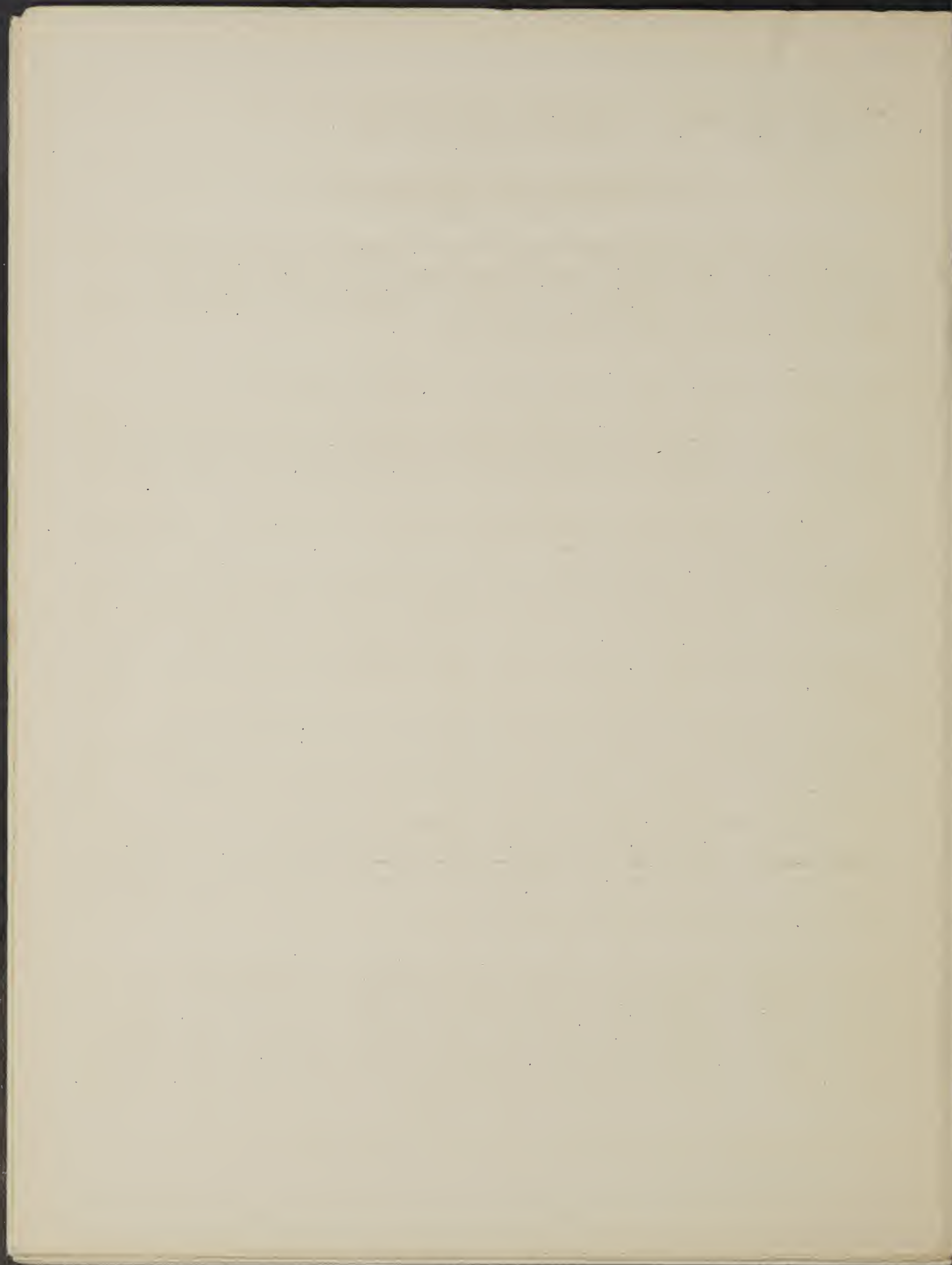
"These increases reflected heavy demand because of rationing of canned goods, as well as shortages of supply due to the cold weather. In consequence of this market situation, prices of a number of the green vegetables were brought under OPA price control on February 23 and 24. Prices of fresh fish, which went up 8.4 per cent, were not under control of the Office of Price Administration.

"The preliminary estimates indicate a smaller increase in food prices from mid-March to mid-April. The final report for April will be ready in about ten days.

"The statistics are based on actual selling prices, regardless of OPA ceilings. The Bureau of Labor Statistics report for March 15 takes into account recent changes in food buying because of rationing and other wartime market conditions, necessitating a delay of several weeks in issuing the report.

"Rents, which are subject to Federal control in all cities covered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports, have varied very little in most areas, and on the average have remained unchanged since December. Other changes include an increase between mid-February and mid-March of 1.1 per cent for clothing, 0.8 per cent for miscellaneous goods and services, 0.3 per cent for housefurnishings, and 0.2 per cent for fuels, electricity and ice.

"The changes in the food index as of March 15 will improve the future accuracy of the index, but do not affect the figures for earlier months. The changes involve the inclusion of seven additional foods which people are buying in larger quantities, like hamburger, liver and corn syrup; changes in the importance of different foods in the index because of reduced supplies, as in the case of canned vegetables, beef and bananas; and increases in the weights given quotations from war production cities because of their population growth.



(3)

Table 2 -- PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN RETAIL FOOD COSTS

Percent of change March 16, 1943,
compared with February 16, 1943

Region and City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery Products	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Vegetables	Beverages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets	Mar. 17 1942, All Foods
United States	+ 2.8	+ 0.5	+ 0.9	+ 0.8	- 1.2	+10.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.4	+15.9
New England:										
Boston	+ 2.8	+ .5	+ 1.2	+ 3.9	- 2.6	+ 8.2	- .3	+ .2	+ .1	+16.3
Bridgeport	+ 3.5	+ .1	+ 1.9	+ .7	- 8.3	+17.2	+ .3	+ 1.5	+ .8	+16.0
Fall River	+ 4.0	+ .3	+ 2.2	+ 4.1	- 2.2	+13.5	+ .1	+ .5	+ 0	+16.8
Manchester	+ 2.5	+ .3	+ 1.8	+ .1	- 1.2	+11.3	- .7	+ .8	+ .5	+16.1
New Haven	+ 2.4	+ .9	+ 1.4	+ .2	- 3.3	+ 9.5	+ .1	+ 1.3	+ .6	+15.3
Portland, Maine	+ 1.6	+ .4	+ 1.5	+ .2	- 3.7	+ 7.7	- .6	+ .1	+ .5	+14.8
Providence	+ 2.3	+ .3	+ 1.0	+ .2	- 6.5	+11.3	+ .2	+ .3	+ .3	+15.3
Middle Atlantic:										
Buffalo	+ 2.2	+ .1	+ .3	0	- 1.2	+10.4	0	+ .1	0	+16.2
Newark	+ 2.8	+ .7	+ 1.4	- .6	- 2.9	+11.8	- .1	+ .2	- .2	+17.4
New York	+ 3.4	+ .3	+ 1.5	+ 1.3	- 1.4	+12.0	+ .3	+ .3	- .3	+18.5
Philadelphia	+ 3.0	+ .3	+ .9	+ .1	- 1.2	+13.3	0	+ .2	+ .7	+15.6
Pittsburgh	+ 2.5	+ .8	+ .3	+ .4	- 1.3	+10.9	- .6	0	+ .2	+16.5
Rochester	+ 2.8	+ .5	+ .9	- .1	+ 1.8	+14.1	0	+ .1	0	+16.2
Scranton	+ 2.2	+ 1.0	+ .6	0	+ .1	+ 8.4	0	+ .1	- .3	+16.4
East North Central:										
Chicago	+ 2.9	+ .5	+ .3	+ .3	- .2	+11.0	+ .1	+ .8	+ 1.5	+15.7
Cincinnati	+ 3.1	+ .5	+ .6	+ .9	+ .3	+10.8	+ .4	0	- .7	+13.6
Cleveland	+ 2.6	+ .7	+ .3	+ .7	- .7	+ 9.7	+ .1	+ .1	0	+15.8
Columbus, Ohio	+ 2.9	+ .7	+ 1.0	+ .8	+ 4.2	+12.8	+ 1.0	0	- .5	+13.0
Detroit	+ 2.6	- .1	+ .8	+ .3	- 3.5	+11.1	+ 1.4	0	+ .9	+14.4
Indianapolis	+ 2.7	+ .5	0	+ .9	- .6	+13.5	+ .3	+ .7	+ .3	+11.6
Milwaukee	+ 2.2	+ .3	0	+ .7	- .2	+ 9.4	0	+ .3	0	+15.5
Peoria	+ 2.8	+ .1	+ .6	+ .4	- 1.8	+10.3	+ 1.0	+ .4	+ 2.3	+13.9
Springfield, Ill.	+ 3.6	+ 1.0	+ 1.4	+ .1	- 2.4	+12.7	+ .2	+ .9	+ .1	+13.7
West North Central:										
Cedar Rapids	+ 2.5	+ .2	+ 1.1	+ 1.2	+ 2.5	+ 7.5	+ .1	+ .2	0	+12.9
Kansas City	+ 3.3	+ .7	+ .3	+ 4.9	+ .1	+10.3	- .1	+ .3	+ .5	+14.8
Minneapolis	+ 1.8	0	+ .2	+ 1.0	+ 1.1	+ 7.8	0	- .6	+ .1	+13.4
Omaha	+ 2.0	+ .5	- .1	+ .9	- 3.1	+ 8.7	+ .3	+ .3	+ .9	+13.6
St. Louis	+ 3.3	+ .3	+ .8	+ 2.1	- 1.3	+11.5	+ .3	+ .3	- .1	+13.0
St. Paul	+ 1.8	+ .3	+ .8	+ 1.0	+ .3	+ 6.9	+ .1	0	0	+14.7
Wichita	+ 2.1	- .1	+ 1.6	+ .8	- 3.4	+ 7.4	+ .2	0	+ 1.6	+16.9

TABLE 1 -- Indexes of Retail Costs of Food in 51 Large Cities Combined, 1/ (2)
by Commodity Groups, in Specified Months
5-Year Average 1935-39 = 100

Commodity Group	1943		1942		1941	1939	
	Mar. 16	Feb. 16	Sept. 15	May 12	Mar. 17	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All Foods	137.4	133.6	126.6	121.6	118.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	107.0	106.5	105.4	105.2	104.8	94.9	93.4
Meats	137.3	136.1	130.6	124.3	120.5	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	129.6	128.9	126.0	124.1	119.7	109.4	99.6
Pork	126.4	126.3	124.0	123.2	117.5	86.0	88.0
Lamb	137.4	137.1	133.7	118.2	108.7	98.7	98.8
Chickens	144.9	143.4	133.7	113.4	112.2	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	203.9	193.0	168.2	150.9	158.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy Products	137.0	135.9	127.7	123.3	121.7	105.1	93.1
Eggs	142.4	144.1	155.2	115.4	112.1	97.4	90.7
Fruits and Vegetables	164.9	148.9	129.7	128.7	123.4	93.3	92.4
Fresh	172.9	152.8	130.3	130.0	123.7	93.4	92.8
Canned	131.7	131.3	123.8	122.7	120.8	91.4	91.6
Dried	157.0	156.5	143.4	131.2	127.9	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.9	124.8	123.8	124.6	119.6	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	126.4	126.1	120.7	122.4	116.8	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	127.9	127.4	127.0	127.1	128.5	95.3	95.6

1/ Preliminary.

TABLE 1-A Percentage Changes in Average Retail Food Costs
March 16, 1943 Compared with:

Commodity Group	1943	1942		1941	1939	
	Feb. 16	Sept. 15	May 12	Mar. 17	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All Foods	+ 2.8	+ 8.5	+13.0	+15.9	+40.5	+ 47.0
Cereals and bakery products	+ .5	+ 1.5	+ 1.7	+ 2.1	+12.8	+ 14.6
Meats	+ .9	+ 5.1	+10.5	+13.9	+35.8	+ 43.5
Beef and veal	+ .5	+ 2.9	+ 4.4	+ 8.3	+18.5	+ 30.1
Pork	+ .1	+ 1.9	+ 2.6	+ 7.6	+47.0	+ 43.6
Lamb	+ .2	+ 2.8	+16.2	+26.4	+39.2	+ 39.1
Chickens	+ 1.0	+ 8.4	+27.8	+29.1	+49.1	+ 53.2
Fish, fresh and canned	+ 5.6	+21.2	+35.1	+28.3	+71.8	+104.7
Dairy Products	+ .8	+ 7.3	+11.1	+12.6	+30.4	+ 47.2
Eggs	- 1.2	- 8.2	+23.4	+27.0	+46.2	+ 57.0
Fruits and vegetables	+10.7	+27.1	+28.1	+33.6	+76.7	+ 78.5
Fresh	+13.2	+32.7	+33.0	+39.8	+85.1	+ 86.3
Canned	+ .3	+ 6.4	+ 7.3	+ 9.0	+44.1	+ 43.8
Dried	+ .3	+ 9.5	+19.7	+22.8	+57.6	+ 73.9
Beverages	+ .1	+ .9	+ .2	+ 4.4	+37.4	+ 31.6
Fats and oils	+ .2	+ 4.7	+ 3.3	+ 8.2	+57.4	+ 49.6
Sugar and sweets	+ .4	+ .7	+ .6	- .5	+34.2	+ 33.8

Table 2 -- PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN RETAIL FOOD COSTS (Cont'd) (4)

Percent of change March 16, 1943,
compared with February 16, 1943

Region and City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery Products	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Vegetables	Beverages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets	Mar. 17 1942, All Foods
South Atlantic:										
Atlanta	+ 3.5	+ .8	+ 1.0	+ .3	- 4.2	+18.3	+ .3	+ .2	- .6	+16.3
Baltimore	+ 4.4	+ .4	+ 2.1	- .3	- 1.2	+15.8	- .8	+ .4	+ .5	+17.1
Charleston, S.C.	+ 2.2	+ .8	0	- .1	- 4.0	+11.3	+ .3	- .1	+ .1	+11.6
Jacksonville	+ 4.2	+ .9	+ 1.8	+ .8	- .8	+16.4	- 3.1	+ .1	+ 1.3	+17.5
Norfolk 1/	+ 2.6	+ 1.0	+ .4	- .2	- 4.0	+12.5	+ .1	- .7	+ .2	+14.0
Richmond	+ 2.3	+ 1.5	0	- .1	- 3.1	+12.3	- .3	- .1	0	+14.7
Savannah	+ 2.7	+ .2	+ .7	+ .3	- 6.7	+13.6	+ 1.1	+ .2	- .3	+15.9
Washington, D.C.	+ 3.6	+ 1.0	+ 1.1	- .2	- 4.0	+12.6	+ .3	+ .5	+ .1	+15.7
Winston-Salem	+ 4.0	+ 1.9	+ .5	+ 3.2	- 3.3	+17.1	- .2	+ .3	- .3	+16.2
East South Central:										
Birmingham	+ 2.4	+ 1.2	+ 1.4	+ .1	- 4.1	+11.2	- .3	+ .2	0	+14.4
Jackson	+ 1.3	+ .1	+ 2.3	+ 1.0	- 4.1	+ 3.4	+ 1.2	+ .6	0	+21.0
Knoxville	+ 4.8	+ 1.6	+ 1.6	+ 4.5	- 2.2	+17.7	- .8	+ .2	0	+20.1
Louisville	+ 2.8	+ 1.1	0	+ .2	- 2.6	+14.8	0	+ .6	+ .9	+11.1
Memphis	+ 3.7	+ 1.1	+ 2.5	+ .2	- 4.8	+14.7	- 1.5	+ .6	0	+22.9
Mobile	+ 3.7	+ .5	+ 2.3	+ .4	- 2.0	+16.4	0	0	0	+11.4
West South Central:										
Dallas	+ 3.9	+ .4	+ 2.9	+ .1	- 2.9	+15.4	0	+ .2	+ 1.7	+16.2
Houston	+ 3.5	+ .6	+ 2.1	+ 2.0	- 2.8	+11.9	+ .7	+ .7	- .3	+14.5
Little Rock	+ 4.5	+ .3	+ .2	+ 4.9	- 5.5	+19.9	- .9	- .2	0	+14.4
New Orleans	+ 4.2	+ .3	+ 1.3	+ 3.0	- 3.1	+16.0	- .1	+ .1	0	+19.7
Mountain:										
Butte	+ 1.3	+ .3	+ 1.5	0	- 6.5	+ 4.5	+ .1	0	0	+12.8
Denver	+ 2.5	+ .2	+ .1	+ .2	- 1.6	+ 9.3	+ .2	0	0	+16.6
Salt Lake City	+ 1.9	- .1	+ .6	+ .7	+ 7.6	+ 4.8	+ .3	- .4	- .3	+17.6
Pacific:										
Los Angeles	+ 2.4	+ .5	+ 1.2	+ .1	+ 7.0	+ 5.2	- .5	- .5	+ .7	+14.3
Portland, Oreg.	+ 1.0	- .3	+ .9	+ .2	- 4.5	+ 4.2	- .2	+ .1	0	+14.5
San Francisco	+ 1.4	+ .5	0	+ .5	- 1.4	+ 5.2	+ .2	+ .1	- .1	+17.9
Seattle	+ .6	+ .1	0	- .1	- 1.3	+ 3.0	0	+ .1	+ 1.8	+14.2

1/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

(5)

TABLE 3-AVERAGE PRICES OF FOOD
In 56 Cities Combined
For January, February and March 1943
And Percentage Change

(Revised Prices for January and February)

Commodity		Average Prices ^{1/}			Percentage Change From				
		Jan. 12	Feb. 16	Mar. 16	Feb. 16	Sept. 15	May 12	Mar. 17	Jan. 14
		1943	1943	1943	1943	1942	1942	1942	1941
		Rev.	Rev.		to	to	to	to	to
					Mar. 16	Mar. 16	Mar. 16	Mar. 16	Mar. 16
					1943	1943	1943	1943	1943
		Cents	Cents	Cents					
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:									
Cereals:									
Flour, wheat	10 pounds	57.0	59.1	60.0	+ 1.5	+10.5	+16.3	+15.6	+44.9
Macaroni	pound	14.2	14.2	14.6	+ 2.8	+ 3.5	+ 2.8	+ 2.8	+ 5.8
*Wheat cereal	28 ounces	24.0	24.1	24.1	0	+ .4	0	0	+ 2.6
Corn flakes	8 ounces	7.0	7.0	7.0	0	0	- 2.8	- 4.1	- 1.4
Corn meal	pound	5.1	5.3	5.4	+ 1.9	+ 8.0	+14.9	+14.9	+28.6
*Rice	do	12.7	12.8	12.8	0	+ 2.4	+ 4.1	+ 7.6	+62.0
Rolled oats	do	8.8	8.9	8.9	0	+ 2.3	+ 3.5	+ 6.0	+25.4
*Flour, pancake	20 ounces	2/	10.5	10.5	0	2/	2/	2/	2/
Bakery products:									
Bread, white	pound	8.8	8.8	8.8	0	+ 1.1	+ 1.1	+ 1.1	+12.8
Bread, whole wheat	do	9.7	9.7	9.7	0	+ 2.1	+ 2.1	+ 2.1	+11.5
Bread, rye	do	9.8	9.8	9.8	0	+ 1.0	+ 1.0	+ 2.1	+ 8.9
Vanilla cookies	do	28.1	28.1	28.8	+ 2.5	+ 6.7	+ 4.0	+ 6.3	+14.7
Soda crackers	do	17.5	17.5	17.6	+ .6	+ 6.0	+ 7.3	+ 7.3	+17.3
MEATS:									
Beef:									
Round steak	pound	45.1	45.2	45.6	+ .9	+ 3.2	+ 3.2	+ 8.6	+18.1
Rib roast	do	35.6	35.8	36.0	+ .6	+ 3.7	+ 5.9	+ 9.8	+14.3
Chuck roast	do	30.7	30.9	31.4	+ 1.6	+ 4.7	+ 8.7	+ 9.8	+24.6
*Stew meat	do	2/	35.5	35.6	+ .3	2/	2/	2/	2/
Liver	do	2/	37.4	37.5	+ .3	2/	2/	2/	2/
Hamburger	do	2/	33.1	33.2	+ .3	2/	2/	2/	2/
Veal:									
Cutlets	do	55.3	55.6	55.5	- .2	+ 1.1	+ 3.5	+ 6.3	+22.8
*Roast, boned and rolled	do	2/	36.7	36.6	- .3	2/	2/	2/	2/
Pork:									
Chops	do	43.2	43.4	43.5	+ .2	+ .9	+ .7	+ 8.8	+49.5
Bacon, sliced	do	42.8	43.0	43.2	+ .5	+ 5.6	+ 9.9	+12.5	+43.5
Ham, sliced	do	60.7	60.8	61.0	+ .3	+ 2.3	+ 3.7	+ 5.7	+35.3
Ham, whole	do	39.0	39.1	39.1	0	+ 2.1	+ 3.4	+ 5.7	+49.2
Salt pork	do	24.0	24.1	24.1	0	+ 1.3	+ .4	+ 5.7	+44.3
*Liver	do	2/	24.1	24.1	0	2/	2/	2/	2/
*Sausage	do	2/	38.2	38.3	+ .3	2/	2/	2/	2/
*Bologna	do	2/	33.4	33.5	+ .3	2/	2/	2/	2/
Lamb:									
Leg	do	39.1	39.2	39.5	+ .8	+ 4.2	+16.9	+25.8	+42.1
Rib chops	do	47.9	48.2	48.4	+ .4	+ 2.8	+17.2	+29.1	+38.3

* Not included in the index.

^{1/} March averages are computed by using the latest available information concerning city population and sales volume in independent and chain stores, and in supermarkets. January and February prices have been revised for comparability with March, and vary slightly from previously published figures. The differences are small for the U.S. average exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ for only 5 foods in January, 1943.

^{2/} Priced for the first time in February 1943.

TABLE 3-AVERAGE PRICES OF FOOD
In 56 Cities Combined
For January, February and March 1943
And Percentage Change (Cont'd)

(6)

(Revised Prices for January and February)

Commodity		Average Prices 1/			Percentage Change from				
		Jan.12	Feb.16	Mar.16	Feb.16	Sept.15	May 12	Mar.17	Jan.14
		1943 Rev.	1943 Rev.	1943	1943 to Mar.16 1943	1942 to Mar.16 1943	1942 to Mar.16 1943	1942 to Mar.16 1943	1941 to Mar.16 1943
		Cents	Cents	Cents					
MEATS: (CONTINUED)									
Poultry:									
Roasting chickens	pound	44.4	45.7	46.3	+ 1.3	+ 8.9	+28.3	+29.7	+48.9
Fish:									
Fish(fresh,frozen)	pound	3/	3/	3/	+ 8.4	+14.1	+28.7	+17.9	+51.6
Salmon, pink	16 oz. can	22.5	23.2	23.1	- .4	+ 6.0	+ 6.0	+ 7.9	+47.1
*Salmon,red	do	40.4	41.7	40.9	- 1.2	+ .7	+ 2.2	+ 4.3	+54.9
DAIRY PRODUCTS:									
Butter	pound	55.6	56.0	56.2	+ .4	+11.1	+23.0	+33.2	+47.9
Cheese	do	37.1	37.7	38.2	+ 1.3	+11.4	+12.4	+ 9.5	+41.5
Milk,fresh(delivered)	quart	15.2	15.4	15.6	+ 1.3	+ 4.0	+ 4.7	+ 3.3	+20.0
Milk,fresh(grocery)	do	13.9	14.2	14.3	+ .7	+ 5.9	+ 5.9	+ 5.1	+20.2
Milk,fresh(av.retail)	do	14.8	15.0	15.1	+ .7	+ 4.1	+ 4.9	+ 3.4	+18.9
Milk,evaporated	14½ oz. can	9.7	10.1	10.2	+ 1.0	+14.6	+17.2	+15.9	+43.7
EGGS:									
Eggs, fresh 4/	dozen	59.0	50.9	50.3	- 1.2	- 8.2	+23.4	+27.0	+46.2
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:									
Fresh fruits and vegetables:									
Fresh fruits:									
Apples	pound	7.6	7.9	8.9	+12.7	+13.5	+18.7	+43.5	+71.2
Bananas	do	10.9	10.6	10.7	+ .9	+ 3.9	-10.8	+ 9.2	+32.1
Oranges	dozen	38.1	37.2	39.4	+ 5.9	+ .8	+25.5	+36.3	+44.3
*Grapefruit	each	6.4	6.0	6.8	- 4.2	-27.7	+ 7.9	+41.7	5/
Fresh vegetables:									
Beans, green	pound	19.7	18.9	26.7	+41.3	+130.2	+99.3	+25.4	+90.7
Cabbage	do	5.7	6.6	9.3	+40.9	+138.5	+106.7	+126.8	+173.5
Carrots	bunch	8.5	9.0	9.2	+ 2.2	+ 33.3	+39.4	+39.4	+53.3
Lettuce	head	13.5	14.0	14.2	+ 1.4	+ 13.6	+54.3	+44.9	+69.0
Onions	pound	5.6	6.2	7.1	+14.5	+ 57.8	+ 4.4	- 6.6	+67.2
Potatoes	15 pounds	54.5	58.8	69.6	+18.4	+ 44.1	+31.3	+44.7	+138.4
Spinach	pound	11.9	12.4	12.9	+ 4.0	+ 20.6	+74.3	+84.3	+76.7
Sweetpotatoes	do	6.4	7.1	9.7	+36.6	+ 51.6	+79.6	+94.0	+94.0
*Beets	bunch	2/	9.4	11.9	+26.6	2/	2/	2/	2/
Canned fruits and vegetables:									
Canned fruits:									
Peaches	No. 2½ can	25.8	26.1	26.3	+ .8	+ 9.6	+12.9	+14.3	+59.4
Pineapple	do	29.0	29.2	29.3	+ .3	+ 3.5	+ 8.1	+11.4	+40.2
Grapefruit juice-No. 2	can	13.5	13.6	13.8	+ 1.5	+11.3	+10.8	+39.4	5/

* Not included in the index.

2/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

3/ Composite price not computed.

4/ Percentage change computed on the index.

5/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

1/ March averages are computed by using the latest available information concerning city population and sales volume in independent and chain stores, and in Supermarkets. January and February prices have been revised for comparability with March, and vary slightly from previously published figures. The differences are small for the U.S. average exceeding ½ ¢ for only 5 foods in January, 1943.

(7)

TABLE 3 - AVERAGE PRICES OF FOOD
 In 56 Cities Combined
 For January, February and March 1943
 And Percentage Change (Cont'd)
 (Revised Prices for January and February)

Commodity		Average Prices 1/			Percentage Change From				
		Jan. 12	Feb. 16	Mar. 16	Feb. 16	Sept. 15	May 12	Mar. 17	Jan. 14
		1943	1943	1943	1943	1942	1942	1942	1941
		Rev.	Rev.		to	to	to	to	to
					Mar. 16	Mar. 16	Mar. 16	Mar. 16	Mar. 16
					1943	1943	1943	1943	1943
		Cents	Cents	Cents					
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)									
Canned vegetables:									
Beans, green	No. 2 can	14.8	15.0	15.2	+ 1.3	+10.9	+ 8.6	+11.8	+52.0
Corn	do	14.0	14.1	14.2	+ .7	+ 6.8	+ 9.2	+10.9	+32.7
Peas	do	15.2	15.3	15.5	+ 1.3	+ 6.2	+ 1.9	+ .6	+17.4
Tomatoes	do	12.5	12.7	12.8	+ .3	+10.3	+ 5.8	+ 7.6	+52.4
*Soup, vegetable	11-oz. can	2/	12.9	13.0	+ .8	2/	2/	2/	2/
Dried fruits and vegetables:									
Dried fruits:									
Prunes	pound	16.3	16.6	16.7	+ .6	+12.8	+35.8	+41.5	+74.0
Dried vegetables:									
Navy beans	pound	9.6	9.7	9.8	+ 1.0	+ 7.7	+ 8.9	+ 8.9	+50.8
*Soup, dehydrated									
Chicken noodle	ounce	2/	3.9	3.8	0	2/	2/	2/	2/
BEVERAGES:									
Coffee	pound	29.7	29.9	30.1	+ .7	+ 4.9	+ 4.2	+ 7.9	+45.4
Tea	1/4 pound	21.2	21.3	21.2	- .5	- 5.4	- 5.4	- .5	+20.5
*Cocoa	3/4 pound	9.2	9.2	9.1	0	-10.8	-10.8	- 9.0	0
FATS AND OILS:									
Lard	pound	19.2	19.2	19.3	+ .5	+11.6	+ 7.8	+16.3	+107.5
Shortening other than lard									
In cartons	pound	19.8	19.9	20.0	+ .5	+ 2.6	+ 1.0	+ 3.6	+ 77.0
In other containers	do	24.6	24.4	24.4	0	0	- 5.4	- 3.2	+ 33.3
Salad dressing	pint	25.1	25.1	25.2	+ .4	0	- .3	+ 2.0	+ 25.4
Oleomargarine	pound	22.7	22.8	23.3	+ 2.2	+ 4.0	+ 4.0	+ 5.9	+ 49.4
Peanut butter	do	31.2	31.5	32.0	+ 1.6	+15.1	+19.0	+36.8	+ 78.8
*Oil, cooking or salad	pint	2/	30.1	30.2	+ .3	2/	2/	2/	2/
SUGAR AND SWEETS:									
Sugar	pound	6.9	6.9	6.9	0	0	0	0	+ 35.3
Corn sirup	24 ounces	15.2	15.2	15.4	+ 1.3	+ 2.0	+ 4.1	+ 6.9	+ 13.2
*Molasses	18 ounces	15.5	15.5	15.5	0	+ 4.7	+ 7.6	+ 9.3	+ 16.4
*Apple butter	16 ounces	2/	13.7	13.7	0	2/	2/	2/	2/

* Not included in the index.

1/ March averages are computed using the latest available information concerning city population and sales volume in independent and chain stores, and in supermarkets. January and February prices have been revised for comparability with March, and vary slightly from previously published figures. The differences are small for the U.S. average, exceeding 2¢ for only 5 foods in January 1943.

2/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

TABLE 4--Indexes of the Average Retail Cost of All Foods by Cities, 1/ (8)
 March 16, 1943 and Feb. 16, 1943 and March 17, 1942

(1935-39 = 100)				
	1943		1942	
	2/ Mar. 16	Feb. 16	Sept. 15	Mar. 17
United States	137.4	133.6	126.6	118.6
New England				
Boston	134.1	130.4	124.4	115.3
Bridgeport	137.6	132.9	127.1	118.6
Fall River	138.0	132.7	125.7	118.2
Manchester	137.8	134.4	126.8	118.7
New Haven	136.1	132.9	126.2	118.0
Portland, Maine	134.4	132.3	125.8	117.1
Providence	135.3	132.3	126.3	117.3
Middle Atlantic				
Buffalo	141.2	138.1	127.6	121.5
Newark	139.1	135.3	128.0	118.5
New York	138.0	133.4	125.2	116.5
Philadelphia	133.5	129.6	123.9	115.5
Pittsburgh	137.2	133.8	125.9	117.8
Rochester	137.6	133.8	125.2	118.4
Scranton	136.9	134.0	125.6	117.6
East North Central				
Chicago	135.9	132.1	124.9	117.5
Cincinnati	135.1	131.1	126.9	118.9
Cleveland	139.5	135.9	127.3	120.5
Columbus	130.2	126.5	119.6	115.2
Detroit	135.7	132.3	124.7	118.6
Indianapolis	134.8	131.2	127.1	120.8
Milwaukee	134.0	131.1	121.0	116.0
Peoria	140.8	136.9	130.7	123.6
Springfield, Ill.	141.3	136.4	130.2	124.3
West North Central				
Cedar Rapids <u>3/</u>	136.3	133.0	121.2	120.7
Kansas City	133.7	129.4	120.7	116.5
Minneapolis	133.0	130.7	123.3	117.3
Omaha	132.4	129.8	123.2	116.5
St. Louis	138.9	134.4	126.7	122.9
St. Paul	132.1	129.8	120.8	115.2
Wichita <u>3/</u>	144.6	141.6	132.0	123.7

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time to time comparisons rather than place to place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.0.

(9)

TABLE 4-Indexes of the Average Retail Cost of All Foods by Cities 1/ cont'd.
March 16, 1943 and Feb. 16, 1943 and March 17, 1942

Region and City	(1935-39 = 100)			
	1 9 4 3		1 9 4 2	
	2/ Mar. 16	Feb. 16	Sept. 15	Mar. 17
South Atlantic				
Atlanta	137.7	133.1	125.9	118.4
Baltimore	144.0	137.9	131.2	123.0
Charleston, S. C.	133.7	130.8	126.6	119.8
Jacksonville	146.0	140.1	134.2	124.3
Norfolk <u>4/</u>	144.5	140.9	131.9	126.7
Richmond	135.8	132.8	126.2	118.4
Savannah	145.1	141.3	133.3	125.2
Washington, D. C.	136.9	132.2	128.1	118.3
Winston-Salem <u>3/</u>	134.5	129.3	119.8	115.7
East South Central				
Birmingham	134.8	131.7	125.3	117.8
Jackson <u>3/</u>	153.5	151.5	141.0	126.9
Knoxville <u>3/</u>	149.7	142.8	134.2	124.6
Louisville	132.6	129.0	124.2	119.3
Memphis	144.8	139.6	129.7	117.8
Mobile	145.6	140.4	133.9	130.7
West South Central				
Dallas	134.3	129.2	123.7	115.6
Houston	142.7	137.9	130.8	124.6
Little Rock	137.4	131.5	129.2	120.1
New Orleans	153.2	147.0	135.9	128.0
Mountain				
Butte	133.5	131.8	124.6	118.3
Denver	137.2	133.9	126.8	117.7
Salt Lake City	141.1	138.5	130.1	120.0
Pacific				
Los Angeles	142.8	139.5	137.9	124.9
Portland, Oreg.	148.5	147.0	141.2	129.7
San Francisco	143.7	141.7	133.5	121.9
Seattle	144.7	143.9	137.3	126.7

- 1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time to time comparisons rather than place to place comparison.
- 2/ Preliminary.
- 3/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.0.
- 4/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
Washington

DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES IN THE B.L.S. COST OF LIVING INDEX
AS OF MARCH 15, 1943

The Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimate of the change in living costs from February to March incorporates revisions in the food cost index which were designed to take into account the effects on consumer buying of rationing and other war-time changes in the supply of foods as well as the effects of recent shifts in population to war production centers.

The revisions do not affect the level of the indexes for previous months and did not appreciably affect the movement of the food cost index from February to March. In order to test its effect the index for several important cities was computed for this period on the basis of the list of commodities and weights previously used. The difference in movement of the two indexes was in every instance negligible. "Modernization" of the index will affect measurements of living costs significantly only over a longer period of time and will serve to insure its future accuracy in reflecting the consumer market conditions characteristic of the war period.

The changes made were:

1. Seven foods were added to the index. They are: rolled oats, beef liver, hamburger, sliced ham and corn sirup which are now being bought in larger quantities than before rationing and food shortages--and grapefruit juice and canned green beans, which are being included to provide more complete representation of canned fruits and vegetables.
2. The quantity "weights" of 27 foods have been reduced in line with anticipated 1943 supplies which will be available to civilian consumers under rationing restrictions, including most cuts of beef--round steak, beef rib roast and chuck roast; veal; lamb; frozen and fresh fish, and pink salmon; butter; fresh apples and bananas; several fresh vegetables--cabbage, carrots, lettuce and spinach; canned peaches; pineapple, corn, peas, tomatoes; dried prunes and navy beans; coffee and tea; shortening other than lard, corn meal and sugar.
3. The relative importance of 25 foods was increased, including the cereals--white, whole wheat and rye bread; macaroni, corn flakes, vanilla cookies and soda crackers; most pork products--pork chops, sliced bacon, whole ham and salt pork; roasting chickens; cheese, fresh and evaporated milk; eggs; and, among the fresh fruits and vegetables--oranges, onions, potatoes, sweet potatoes; lard, salad dressing, oleomargarine and peanut butter. The increase in importance of these foods in the index does not necessarily mean that a larger quantity will be available for civilian use--the contrary is true of bacon, for example--but that they are relatively less scarce than the 27 foods listed above.
4. Adjustments were made for changes in the volume of food sold through chains and independent stores and supermarkets.
5. Five cities in which food prices have been available for some time have been incorporated in the all-cities index.
6. The relative importance of the cities included in the food cost index and in the over-all cost of living index has been changed to take account of the changes in population because of war activities.



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

THE COST OF LIVING

April 15, 1943

JUN 3 1943
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Mainly because of continued advances in food prices, especially for fresh fruits and vegetables, the cost of living for city workers rose 1.1 percent from mid-March to mid-April, Secretary of Labor Perkins reported today. Toward the end of the period covered by the report the President issued his Hold the Line directive. "This increase, somewhat smaller than in the previous month, brought the level of all living costs to 124.1 percent of the 1935-39 average, 23 percent above January 1941, base period for the Little Steel formula," she said.

"Food costs, the most important part of the family budget, were up 2.3 percent from March to April. On the average, consumers now pay \$1.40 for food which cost \$1.00 in the years 1935-39. From mid-March to mid-April, as in the previous month, prices of fresh fruits and vegetables advanced with particular rapidity, on the average rising 10.5 percent to a point 51 percent above April of last year.

"Prices of cabbage were up 24 percent, onions 20 percent, apples 19 percent and sweet potatoes 31 percent over the month. Prices of certain vegetables declined seasonally -- 14 percent in the case of carrots and 2 percent for spinach. Prices of white potatoes, which were already growing scarce in April, rose 14½ percent to a level 61 percent above April of last year and 173 percent above January 1941.

"Prices of fresh fish also increased further by 7.7 percent during the month to a level 30 percent higher than a year ago. Fish is now twice as expensive as it was before the war. Most other food costs continued their slow advances of recent months, with the chief exception of eggs, which declined less than usual at this time of year, and of pork. New dollar and cent ceilings set by the OPA resulted in a fractional decline for pork products as a group. There were increases of 1.0 percent or less for beef and veal, lamb, and poultry and of 1/2 percent or less for cereals and bakery products, sugar and sweets, fats and oils and dairy products.

"The increases in food prices were quite general, but were especially large in a number of Southern cities. The variation between cities was larger than usual, ranging from less than 1/2 percent in Minneapolis to over 5 percent for Jacksonville, Norfolk and Wichita. At present levels there is considerable variation between cities in the amount by which food prices have increased since the price rise began to be marked in January 1941.

"The advance ranges from 61 percent in Knoxville and 59 percent in Memphis and Norfolk to 35 percent in St. Paul and Minneapolis. For all living costs there are also marked differences between cities, with advances since January 1941 ranging from nearly 29 percent in Savannah to about 19 percent in Minneapolis.

"Aside from food, other living costs rose by only small amounts during the month. Prices of clothing were up 0.2 percent on the average, because of slight increases for men's wool suits and coats and for women's percale house dresses in some cities. There were smaller increases for housefurnishings and for fuel, electricity and ice. On the other hand, the fairly sharp advances of recent months were continued for medical care, barber and beauty shop services and motion picture admissions. Charges for hospital rooms were higher in 8 of the 21 cities surveyed. Costs for miscellaneous goods and services as a group rose 0.3 percent from March to April.

"Rents, which are surveyed quarterly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, have shown very little change during the past 12 months. The next report on rent costs will cover monthly changes for the quarterly period through June". (LS 43-5610)

Table 1.

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Report for April 15, 1943

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100 *

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: April 15	115.1	119.6	126.5	109.2	104.3	121.9	110.6
May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: March 15	122.8	137.4	127.6	108.0	107.4	124.5	114.5
April 15	124.1	140.6	127.8	<u>2/</u>	107.5	124.6	114.8

Table 1a.

Percent Change

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent ^{1/}	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Mar. 15, 1943 to Apr. 15, 1943	+1.1	+2.3	+0.2	<u>2/</u>	+0.1	+0.1	+0.3
Sept. 15, 1942 to Apr. 15, 1943	+5.3	+11.1	+1.6	0	+1.2	+0.8	+3.1
May 15, 1942 to Apr. 15, 1943	+7.0	+15.6	+1.3	-1.7	+2.5	+2.0	+3.5
Apr. 15, 1942 to Apr. 15, 1943	+7.8	+17.6	+1.0	-1.1	+3.1	+2.2	+3.8
Jan. 15, 1941 to Apr. 15, 1943	+23.1	+43.8	+26.9	+2.9	+6.6	+24.5	+12.7
Aug. 15, 1939 to Apr. 15, 1943	+25.9	+50.4	+27.4	+3.5	+10.3	+23.9	+14.3

^{1/} Changes through March 15, 1943.^{2/} Rents not surveyed in April. See text of report.

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 2.

Report for April 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change between March 15, 1943 and April 15, 1943 by Groups *

Region and city	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+1.1 <u>1/</u>	+2.3 <u>2/</u>	+0.2 <u>3/</u>	+0.1 <u>4/</u>	+0.1 <u>3/</u>	+0.3 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	+1.0	+2.2	+0.2	+0.1	0	0
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	+0.8	+2.0	+0.2	0	0	+0.1
New York	+0.7	+1.4	+0.3	0	0	0
Philadelphia	+2.2	+5.0	+0.2	0	0	+0.2
Pittsburgh	+0.8	+1.6	+0.5	+0.2	+0.3	+0.4
East North Central:						
Chicago	+0.9	+2.0	+0.1	0	0	+0.4
Cincinnati	+1.1	+2.3	+0.3	+0.1	+0.6	+0.5
Cleveland	+0.6	+1.4	+0.2	+0.2	+0.3	0
Detroit	+0.7	+1.3	0	0	0	+1.2
West North Central:						
Kansas City	+1.2	+2.8	+0.6	0	+0.1	+0.3
Minneapolis	-0.1	+0.4	0	0	0	-0.9
St. Louis	+1.1	+2.5	+0.1	0	+0.1	+0.1
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	+1.4	+3.1	+0.2	0	0	+0.6
Savannah	+1.9	+4.3	0	0	0	+0.1
Washington, D. C.	+0.8	+2.2	+0.3	0	0	0
East South Central:						
Birmingham	+2.0	+4.6	0	+0.7	+0.3	+0.9
West South Central:						
Houston	+0.2	+0.4	+0.1	0	0	+0.1
Mountain:						
Denver	+0.6	+1.3	0	0	0	0
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	+1.0	+2.4	0	0	+0.1	0
San Francisco	+1.9	+4.2	0	0	0	+0.5
Seattle	+0.8	+1.0	+0.2	+0.5	0	+1.2

1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates - March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15.

2/ Based on data for 56 cities.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

* These percent changes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 3.

Report for April 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and Other Specified Periods *

Region and city	Percentage Change				
	Apr.15,1942	Aug.15,1939	Jan. 1,1941	May 15,1942	Sep.15,1942
	to Apr.15,1943	to Apr.15,1943	to Apr.15,1943	to Apr.15,1943	to Apr.15,1943
Average: Large Cities	+7.8	+25.9	+23.1	+7.0	+5.3
New England:					
Boston	+8.8	+25.4	+22.9	+7.4	+4.8
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+7.1	+29.3	+25.0	+5.7	+5.7
New York	+9.1	+24.0	+21.6	+8.4	+5.6
Philadelphia	+9.1	+26.9	+25.1	+8.2	+6.2
Pittsburgh	+8.5	+25.6	+22.1	+6.7	+5.2
East North Central:					
Chicago	+7.0	+25.0	+21.9	+5.9	+5.2
Cincinnati	+7.0	+26.8	+23.9	+6.5	+4.6
Cleveland	+7.0	+26.2	+23.7	+6.2	+5.5
Detroit	+5.5	+26.8	+23.7	+5.1	+5.5
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+7.5	+23.9	+24.2	+7.1	+6.5
Minneapolis	+5.4	+21.3	+18.8	+4.3	+3.5
St. Louis	+6.8	+25.6	+22.0	+6.6	+5.7
South Atlantic:					
Baltimore	+7.9	+28.3	+25.7	+7.1	+5.7
Savannah	+8.7	+31.5	+28.8	+8.0	+7.0
Washington, D. C.	+7.5	+24.0	+22.4	+6.6	+4.4
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+6.0	+27.2	+23.2	+5.6	+5.5
West South Central:					
Houston	+6.9	+22.8	+21.3	+6.5	+4.8
Mountain:					
Denver	+6.9	+24.2	+22.5	+6.0	+4.5
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+7.4	+25.2	+22.7	+6.5	+3.4
San Francisco	+9.8	+29.4	+26.2	+9.3	+6.3
Seattle	+6.3	+27.6	+25.4	+5.6	+4.3

* These percent changes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 4.

Report for April 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

Region and city	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	124.11/	140.62/	127.83/	107.54/	124.63/	114.83/
New England:						
Boston	121.8	137.1	123.5	118.3	119.7	111.3
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	127.4	144.0	128.0	105.0	126.5	121.4
New York	122.8	139.9	127.4	110.6	118.3	113.2
Philadelphia	124.1	140.2	127.5	105.9	122.7	114.7
Pittsburgh	123.6	139.4	130.5	110.3	122.5	114.2
East North Central:						
Chicago	123.4	138.6	123.8	103.2	120.1	113.5
Cincinnati	123.4	138.2	132.8	104.0	126.8	114.4
Cleveland	126.2	141.4	131.0	113.7	125.0	114.9
Detroit	124.9	137.4	129.3	108.9	122.2	120.3
West North Central:						
Kansas City	122.2	137.4	125.3	107.9	117.9	116.0
Minneapolis	120.9	133.5	127.5	100.0	125.0	116.2
St. Louis	123.2	142.4	128.9	106.2	116.5	111.7
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	126.6	148.4	127.8	106.8	128.9	114.4
Savannah	130.6	151.3	130.1	113.1	121.4	118.8
Washington, D. C.	122.3	139.9	134.9	106.0	131.4	117.9
East South Central:						
Birmingham	125.3	141.0	128.0	101.1	120.4	114.4
West South Central:						
Houston	123.7	143.2	129.5	92.2	122.4	115.6
Mountain:						
Denver	122.5	139.0	124.7	100.1	121.8	114.5
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	125.8	146.2	129.7	94.2	119.0	116.2
San Francisco	128.5	149.7	128.1	92.2	119.0	122.4
Seattle	128.0	146.2	131.0	101.9	119.9	123.1

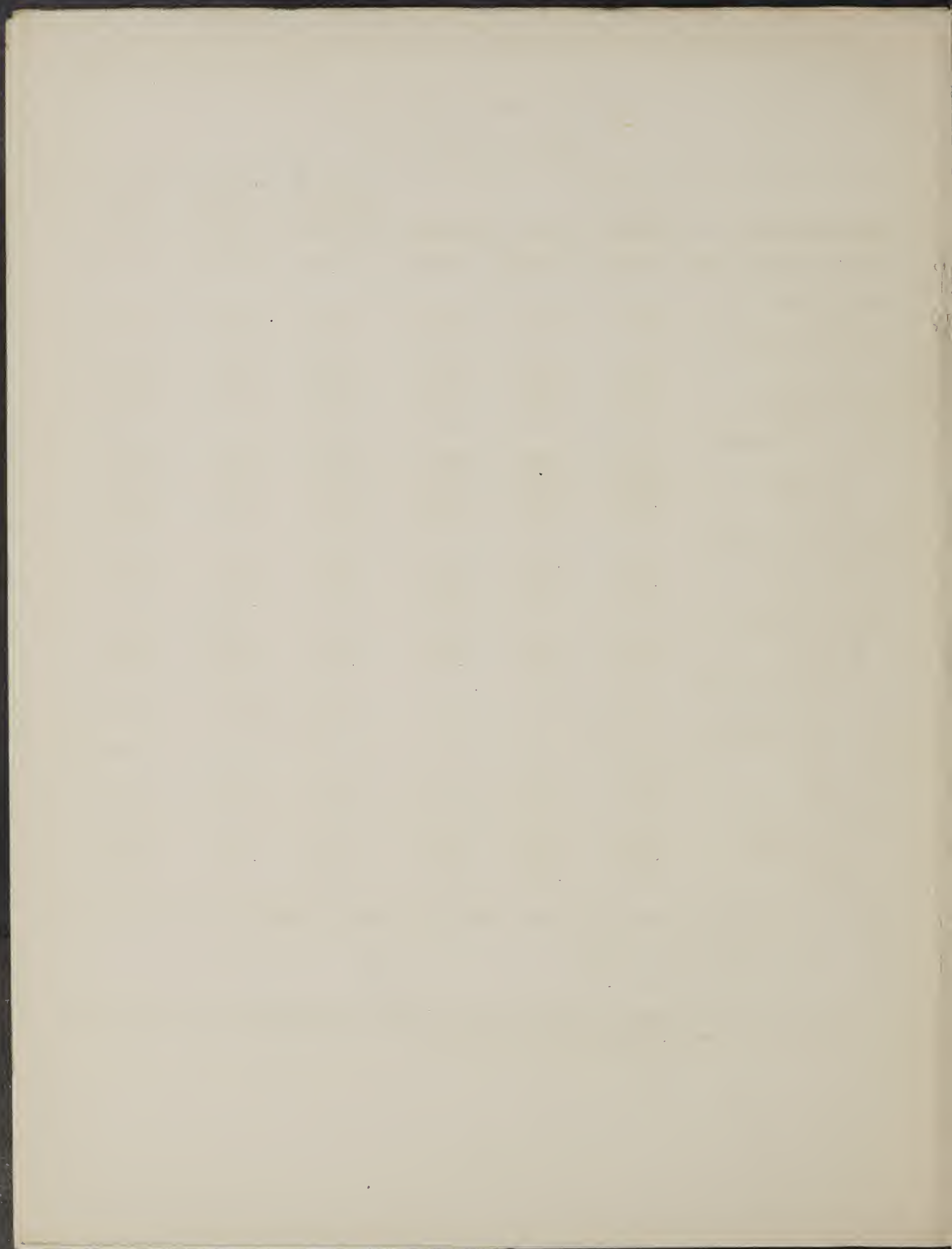
1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates - March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

2/ Based on data for 56 cities.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.



For release Friday

June 18, 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

THE COST OF LIVING

May 15, 1943

THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

JUN 24 1943

While the cost of items making up nearly 60 percent of the family budget remained practically unchanged in the month ended May 15, a rise of 1.7 percent in food prices increased the total cost of living for city workers by 0.8 percent, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins reported today. "This increase of 0.8 percent compares with a rise of 1.5 percent in the month ending March 15 and 1.1 percent in the month ending April 15," she said.

"Great variation in food price changes in different parts of the country was shown as the Bureau of Labor Statistics shopped more than 1,200 stores in 56 cities. New vegetable and fruit crops were coming into local markets and OPA flat price ceilings which vary by cities were just becoming effective in mid-May.

"The largest increases in May food prices were for fresh fruits and vegetables, which were up 8 percent. Prices of chickens continued to rise, with growing scarcity at the retail level in some cities. Sweet potatoes increased 40 percent in the period, to three times their price of a year ago.

"With this recent rise, food prices as a whole averaged 17 percent above last May and 46 percent above January 1941. In view of the wide regional variations in food prices, the national averages this month naturally do not describe the experience in many individual cities, let alone in individual families. Thus, in the case of fresh fruits and vegetables, changes ranged from an average increase of 24 percent in a New England city to a decline of 21 percent in a large Southern city.

"Aside from food, the principal increases were in the cost of services, particularly medical care and barber and beauty shop services. Prices of rayon hosiery had gone down 2 percent on the average by mid-May, although the new OPA price-quality ceilings were not fully in effect.

"Taking account of all these changes, the cost of living index stood at 125.1 percent of the 1935-39 average, 7.8 percent above a year ago and 24.1 percent above January 1941, base date for the Little Steel formula."

Food The largest increases during the month were for fresh fruits and vegetables, which rose 8 percent on the average. Scarcity of sweet and white potatoes led to price increases of 40 and 16 percent respectively. The price of sweet potatoes was about 230 percent above a year ago.

The trend in meat prices as well as for fresh fruits and vegetables was also divergent sectionally and showed the first but not the full effect of new OPA dollar-and-cent ceilings which went into effect on May 17. Of the 56 cities included in the survey 25 cities had lower costs for meat and 30 higher costs, but full adjustment to the new ceilings had not yet been made in all the stores visited. Some of the changes were substantial and ranged from declines of between 4 and 5 percent in some cities to increases of nearly 6 percent in others. Prices of veal were somewhat lower in most cities. On the other hand, prices of chickens were slightly higher in nearly all areas, reflecting the general scarcity at the retail level. Prices of fresh fish, which have increased very sharply in recent months, declined with an increase in the available supply.

Miscellaneous Goods and Services Aside from foods the largest price increases were for beauty and barber shop services which continued to advance and for hospital room charges which rose in one-third of the cities covered. These advances resulted in an average increase of 0.3 percent in the cost of all miscellaneous goods and services.

(LS 43-5870)

Clothing Clothing prices were on the average unchanged, but the price of rayon hosiery declined 2.0 percent, as adjustments were made to the new OPA price-quality ceiling which became effective May 15. There were scattered increases for work shirts, wash frocks and shoe repairs.

Housefurnishings Housefurnishings costs increased slightly, 0.1 percent, as the result of higher prices for bedroom suites, rugs and felt base floor coverings. These advances more than offset lower sale prices for muslin sheets in some cities.

Fuel, Electricity and Ice Prices of fuel, electricity and ice were unchanged in most cities. Higher prices for coal in Milwaukee and Minneapolis in addition to slightly higher prices for fuels in other cities resulted in an 0.1 percent increase in the average cost of the entire group. There was a seasonal reduction in gas rates in New York.

Rent Rent costs have changed very little in large cities since mid-September 1942. In the interest of economy, changes in rents are now surveyed quarterly and were last secured in March.

Table 1.

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Report for May 15, 1943

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: April 15	124.1	140.6	127.8	<u>1/</u>	107.5	124.6	114.8
May 15	125.1	143.0	127.8	<u>1/</u>	107.6	124.7	115.1

Table 1a.

Percent of Change

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent ^{2/}	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
April 15, 1943 to May 15, 1943	+0.8	+1.7	0	<u>1/</u>	+0.1	+0.1	+0.3
Sept. 15, 1942 to May 15, 1943	+6.2	+13.0	+1.6	0	+1.3	+0.9	+3.3
May 15, 1942 to May 15, 1943	+7.8	+17.6	+1.3	-1.7	+2.6	+2.0	+3.8
Jan. 15, 1941 to May 15, 1943	+24.1	+46.2	+26.9	+2.9	+6.7	+24.6	+13.0
Aug. 15, 1939 to May 15, 1943	+26.9	+52.9	+27.4	+3.5	+10.4	+24.0	+14.6

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed in April and May. (See text of report).

2/ Changes through March 15, 1943.

Table 2.

Report for May 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change between April 15, 1943 and May 15, 1943 by Groups*

Region and city	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+0.8 ¹ / ₁	+1.7 ² / ₂	0 ³ / ₃	+0.1 ⁴ / ₄	+0.1 ³ / ₃	+0.3 ³ / ₃
New England:						
Boston	+0.3	+0.7	0	+0.1	-0.3	+0.3
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	+1.1	+2.6	-0.5	0	0	+0.3
New York	+1.1	+2.4	+0.2	-0.2	-0.1	+0.2
Philadelphia	+0.4 ⁵ / ₅	+0.8 ⁵ / ₅	+0.1	0	0	+0.1
Pittsburgh	+0.9	+2.2	+0.1	0	0	+0.1
East North Central:						
Chicago	+0.8	+1.8	0	0	0	0
Cincinnati	+0.2	+0.1	0	0	+1.1	+0.5
Cleveland	+1.4	+3.5	0	0	0	+0.1
Detroit	+1.8	+4.4	-0.1	0	+0.1	+0.5
West North Central:						
Kansas City	+0.2	+0.4	-0.1	0	0	+0.4
Minneapolis	+0.7	+1.0	-0.5	+1.5	0	+0.9
St. Louis	+0.7	+1.6	0	0	+0.7	+0.1
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	+1.2 ⁶ / ₇	+2.7 ⁶ / ₇	-0.2	0	0	0
Savannah	+0.4 ⁷ / ₇	+0.9 ⁷ / ₇	0	0	0	0
Washington, D. C.	+1.0	+1.9	-0.2	+0.1	-0.1	+1.4
East South Central:						
Birmingham	+0.1	-0.2	+0.5	+0.3	+0.1	+0.3
West South Central:						
Houston	+0.2 ⁸ / ₈	+0.2 ⁸ / ₈	+0.2	0	+0.1	+0.1
Mountain:						
Denver	+1.6	+3.5	-0.6	0	0	+0.9
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	-0.1	0	-0.4	0	0	0
San Francisco	-0.3 ⁹ / ₉	-1.1	-0.5	0	0	+1.1
Seattle	+1.3 ⁹ / ₉	+3.0 ⁹ / ₉	0	0	0	0

* These percent changes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

¹/Rents collected at quarterly dates, March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

²/Based on prices for 56 cities collected on the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

³/Based on data for 21 cities.

⁴/Based on data for 34 cities.

⁵/Indexes for April revised - All items 124.2; food 140.5.

⁶/Indexes for April revised - All items 126.7; food 148.6.

⁷/Indexes for April revised - All items 131.0; food 152.5.

⁸/Indexes for April revised - All items 123.8; food 143.4.

⁹/Indexes for April revised - All items 127.9; food 145.9.

Table 3

Report for May 15, 1942

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and Other Specified Periods*

Region and City	May 15, 1942 to May 15, 1943	Aug. 15, 1939 to May 15, 1943	Jan. 1, 1941 to May 15, 1943	Sept. 15, 1942 to May 15, 1943
Average: Large Cities	+7.8	+26.9	+24.1	+6.2
New England:				
Boston	+7.8	+25.8	+23.3	+5.2
Middle Atlantic:				
Buffalo	+6.9	+30.8	+26.4	+6.9
New York	+9.6	+25.5	+23.0	+6.8
Philadelphia	+8.7	+27.5	+25.7	+6.7
Pittsburgh	+7.7	+26.7	+23.2	+6.1
East North Central:				
Chicago	+6.8	+26.0	+22.9	+6.1
Cincinnati	+6.6	+27.0	+24.1	+4.7
Cleveland	+7.7	+28.0	+25.5	+7.0
Detroit	+7.1	+29.1	+25.9	+7.4
West North Central:				
Kansas City	+7.4	+24.2	+24.5	+6.8
Minneapolis	+5.0	+22.1	+19.5	+4.2
St. Louis	+7.4	+26.5	+22.9	+6.4
South Atlantic:				
Baltimore	+8.5	+29.9	+27.3	+7.0
Savannah	+8.8	+32.4	+29.7	+7.7
Washington, D. C.	+7.7	+25.3	+23.6	+5.5
East South Central:				
Birmingham	+5.6	+27.3	+23.3	+5.6
West South Central:				
Houston	+6.7	+23.1	+21.6	+5.1
Mountain:				
Denver	+7.6	+26.2	+24.4	+6.1
Pacific:				
Los Angeles	+6.4	+25.1	+22.6	+3.3
San Francisco	+8.9	+29.0	+25.8	+6.0
Seattle	+6.8	+29.1	+26.8	+5.5

* These percent changes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 4

Report for May 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	125.1 ^{1/}	143.0 ^{2/}	127.8 ^{3/}	107.6 ^{4/}	124.7 ^{3/}	115.1 ^{3/}
New England:						
Boston	122.2	138.1	123.5	118.4	119.3	111.6
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	128.8	147.8	127.3	105.0	126.5	121.8
New York	124.2	143.3	127.6	110.4	118.2	113.4
Philadelphia	124.7	141.6	127.6	105.9	122.7	114.8
Pittsburgh	124.7	142.4	130.6	110.3	122.5	114.3
East North Central:						
Chicago	124.4	141.1	123.8	103.2	120.1	113.5
Cincinnati	123.6	138.3	132.8	104.0	128.2	115.0
Cleveland	128.0	146.3	131.0	113.7	125.0	115.0
Detroit	127.2	143.4	129.2	108.9	122.3	120.9
West North Central:						
Kansas City	122.5	137.9	125.2	107.9	117.9	116.5
Minneapolis	121.7	134.9	126.8	101.5	125.0	117.2
St. Louis	124.1	144.7	128.9	106.2	117.3	111.8
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	128.2	152.6	127.5	106.8	128.9	114.4
Savannah	131.5	153.8	130.1	113.1	121.4	118.8
Washington, D. C.	123.5	142.5	134.6	106.1	131.3	119.6
East South Central:						
Birmingham	125.4	140.7	128.6	101.4	120.5	114.8
West South Central:						
Houston	124.0	143.7	129.8	92.2	122.5	115.7
Mountain:						
Denver	124.4	143.8	124.0	100.1	121.8	115.5
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	125.7	146.2	129.2	94.2	119.0	116.2
San Francisco	128.1	148.0	127.5	92.2	119.0	123.7
Seattle	129.5	150.3	131.0	101.9	119.9	123.1

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

^{1/} Rents collected at quarterly dates March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

^{2/} Based on prices for 56 cities collected on the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

^{3/} Based on data for 21 cities.

^{4/} Based on data for 34 cities.

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For release Friday
June 18, 1943

U.S. Department of Labor
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
Washington

THE COST OF LIVING, May 15, 1943
(Including RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD, May 18)

While the cost of items making up nearly 60 per cent of the family budget remained practically unchanged in the month ended May 15, a rise of 1.7 per cent in food prices increased the total cost of living for city workers by 0.8 per cent, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins reported today.

"This increase of 0.8 per cent compares with a rise of 1.5 per cent in the month ending March 15 and 1.1 per cent in the month ending April 15," she said.

"Great variation in food price changes in different parts of the country was shown as the Bureau of Labor Statistics shopped more than 1,200 stores in 56 cities. New vegetable and fruit crops were coming into local markets and OPA flat price ceilings which vary by cities were just becoming effective in mid-May.

"The largest increases in May food prices were for fresh fruits and vegetables, which were up 8 per cent. Prices of chickens continued to rise, with growing scarcity at the retail level in some cities. Sweet potatoes increased 40 per cent in the period, to three times their price of a year ago.

"With this recent rise, food prices as a whole averaged 17 per cent above last May and 46 per cent above January 1941. In view of the wide regional variations in food prices, the national averages this month naturally do not describe the experience in many individual cities, let alone in individual families. Thus, in the case of fresh fruits and vegetables, changes ranged from an average increase of 24 per cent in a New England city to a decline of 21 per cent in a large Southern city.

"Aside from food, the principal increases were in the cost of services, particularly medical care and barber and beauty shop services. Prices of rayon hosiery had gone down 2 per cent on the average by mid-May, although the new OPA price-quality ceilings were not fully in effect.

"Taking account of all these changes, the cost of living index stood at 125.1 per cent of the 1935-39 average, 7.8 per cent above a year ago and 24.1 per cent above January 1941, base date for the Little Steel formula."

Table 1 -- Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity Group	1943		1942		1941	1939
	May 18 2/	Apr. 20	Sept. 15	May 12	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All Foods	143.0	140.6	126.6	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and Bakery products	107.6	3/ 107.5	105.4	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	138.3	138.0	130.6	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	131.1	130.5	126.0	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	125.5	126.0	124.0	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	141.6	138.7	133.7	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	147.6	146.4	133.7	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	201.7	207.0	168.2	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy Products	136.9	137.1	127.7	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	142.1	141.3	155.2	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	190.9	3/ 179.5	129.7	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	205.8	3/ 191.2	130.3	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	131.2	132.4	123.8	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	158.0	157.7	143.4	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.5	124.9	123.8	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	126.2	126.6	120.7	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	127.5	128.4	127.0	127.1	95.3	95.6

Table 1-A -- Percent Change

Commodity Group	Apr. 20	Sept. 15	May 12	June 14	Aug. 15
	1943	1942	1942	1941	1939
	to May 18 1943	to May 18 1943	to May 18 1943	to May 18 1943	to May 18 1943
All Foods	+ 1.7	+ 13.0	+ 17.6	+ 46.2	+ 52.9
Cereals and bakery products	+ .1	+ 2.1	+ 2.3	+ 13.4	+ 15.2
Meats	+ .2	+ 5.9	+ 11.3	+ 36.8	+ 44.5
Beef and veal	+ .5	+ 4.0	+ 5.6	+ 19.8	+ 31.6
Pork	- .4	+ 1.2	+ 1.9	+ 45.8	+ 42.6
Lamb	+ 2.1	+ 5.9	+ 19.8	+ 43.5	+ 43.3
Chickens	+ .8	+ 10.4	+ 30.2	+ 51.9	+ 56.0
Fish, fresh and canned	- 2.6	+ 19.9	+ 33.7	+ 69.9	+102.5
Dairy Products	- .1	+ 7.2	+ 11.0	+ 30.3	+ 47.0
Eggs	+ .6	- 8.4	+ 23.1	+ 45.9	+ 56.7
Fruits and vegetables	+ 6.4	+ 47.2	+ 48.3	+104.6	+106.6
Fresh	+ 7.6	+ 57.9	+ 58.3	+120.3	+121.8
Canned	- .9	+ 6.0	+ 6.9	+ 43.5	+ 43.2
Dried	+ .2	+ 10.2	+ 20.4	+ 58.6	+ 75.0
Beverages	- .3	+ .6	- .1	+ 37.0	+ 31.2
Fats and oils	- .3	+ 4.6	+ 3.1	+ 57.2	+ 49.3
Sugar and sweets	- .7	+ .4	+ .3	+ 33.8	+ 33.4

1/ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

Table 2 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - April 20, 1943 to May 15, 1944								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
United States:	+ 1.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	- 0.1	+ 0.6	+ 6.4	- 0.3	- 0.3	- 0.7
New England:									
Boston	+ .7	- .1	- .7	- .2	+ 1.4	+ 3.9	- .2	+ .4	+ .7
Bridgeport	+ 3.7	- .3	+ 3.2	- .3	+ 1.6	+ 12.1	0	- 1.0	- 1.7
Fall River	+ .9	- .3	- 4.4	- .1	+ .8	+ 9.5	+ .7	+ 3.3	+ 1.4
Manchester	+ 2.2	0	- 1.0	- .1	+ .6	+ 12.6	- .2	- .5	+ .5
New Haven	+ 5.3	+ .1	+ 1.8	- .3	+ 3.1	+ 19.8	- .3	- .4	+ .3
Portland, Maine	+ 2.2	+ .1	+ 1.1	+ .1	+ 2.3	+ 8.5	- 1.3	- .4	0
Providence	+ 2.9	- .2	- 1.7	- .1	+ .9	+ 14.9	- .1	0	+ .7
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	+ 2.6	- .1	+ 1.4	- .6	+ .8	+ 9.3	- .3	- .4	- .9
Newark	+ 1.2	- .2	+ .9	0	+ .4	+ 4.0	- 2.5	- .1	- .4
New York	+ 2.4	+ .4	+ 1.7	0	- .3	+ 7.5	+ .4	- 1.1	- 1.5
Philadelphia	+ .8	+ .6	- 1.1	- .2	+ .7	+ 4.2	- .3	+ .2	- 1.8
Pittsburgh	+ 2.2	- .3	- 1.4	- .5	- .5	+ 11.2	+ .5	+ .3	+ 2.3
Rochester	+ .2	- .4	- 3.2	- .4	+ 2.1	+ 6.1	0	- .5	- 2.6
Scranton	+ 3.5	0	+ .5	0	+ 1.8	+ 12.7	- .1	- 1.4	0
East North Central:									
Chicago	+ 1.8	- .3	+ 1.9	- .1	- .7	+ 5.2	- 1.5	- .2	- 1.9
Cincinnati	+ .1	+ .2	- .5	- .3	+ .5	+ 1.4	- 3.1	- .6	- 1.0
Cleveland	+ 3.5	+ .2	0	0	+ .7	+ 12.8	- .6	- .3	0
Columbus	+ 1.1	+ .2	- .3	+ .2	+ .3	+ 5.3	0	- .2	- .3
Detroit	+ 4.4	+ .7	+ 1.0	- .4	- .3	+ 16.4	0	- .9	- .6
Indianapolis	+ 1.6	- .6	+ 1.1	0	+ .3	+ 6.2	+ .2	0	- 1.0
Milwaukee	+ 3.3	+ .1	+ 1.8	0	+ 1.7	+ 10.8	+ .2	- .1	- 2.3
Peoria	+ 3.3	+ .3	- .3	+ .1	+ .8	+ 11.9	- .6	- .2	- 1.9
Springfield, Ill.	+ 2.6	- .5	+ 1.3	0	+ 2.7	+ 8.0	- 2.1	0	+ .3
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	+ 2.3	+ .2	- .9	+ .1	- .5	+ 9.9	+ .5	+ .1	0
Kansas City	+ .4	- .3	+ 2.3	- .7	- .3	+ .1	+ .2	- 2.3	+ .8
Minneapolis	+ 1.0	- .5	- 1.4	- .1	- .4	+ 8.2	- .8	+ .1	- 1.1
Omaha	+ 2.0	- .4	+ 4.0	0	- .2	+ 3.6	- .1	+ 1.0	- 1.1
St. Louis	+ 1.6	+ .2	+ .4	+ .2	+ .6	+ 4.8	0	- .4	+ .4
St. Paul	+ .9	- .8	- .7	- .1	- .8	+ 6.6	- .8	+ .2	- .1
Wichita	- 1.3	+ .2	+ .8	+ .7	+ .8	- 7.0	+ .9	+ 1.2	- 1.6

Table 2 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods, (Cont'd.)

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - April 20, 1943 to May 13, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	+ 1.9	- 1.1	+ 5.8	- .2	+ 2.4	+ .4	- .5	- .1	- 3.0
Baltimore	+ 2.7	+ .1	- 1.1	0	+ .9	+10.6	- 2.1	- .3	- 4.3
Charleston, S.C.	- .1	+ .5	+ .4	+ .1	+ 4.4	- 2.0	- 2.6	+ .6	0
Jacksonville	- 1.2	+ .4	- 3.7	- .8	+ 9.5	- 2.6	- 1.3	+ .3	+ 1.1
Norfolk,	+ .9	- .4	- 4.1	- .3	+ 1.0	+ 9.3	- 1.1	- .2	- 4.2
Richmond	- .6	- .6	- 4.9	- .7	+ 1.2	+ 4.6	- 1.3	- .1	+ 2.4
Savannah	+ .9	- .6	+ 4.1	- .2	+ .4	- 1.2	- .8	+ .1	- .6
Washington, D.C.	+ 1.9	- .6	- 1.8	- .1	+ .2	+ 8.2	- .3	0	- .2
Winston-Salem	+ 1.3	+ .1	+ 1.8	+ .1	+ 4.7	+ 2.0	- 1.1	+ .1	0
East South Central:									
Birmingham	- .2	+ .6	+ 1.3	- .3	0	- 1.7	- .8	- .4	- 1.8
Jackson	- 1.9	0	- 2.5	0	- 1.8	- 6.0	+ .7	+ 1.3	0
Knoxville	- .1	+ .1	+ .9	- .3	+ 4.2	- 2.0	- .2	- .6	- .2
Louisville	+ 2.2	+ .2	+ .8	+ .1	+ .6	+ 9.3	0	- .3	- 2.7
Memphis	+ .6	- .1	- .3	- .5	+ 1.4	+ 2.8	+ .2	- .7	0
Mobile	- .4	+ .2	+ .5	+ .1	- .8	- 2.7	+ .1	0	+ .2
West South Central:									
Dallas	+ .9	+ .1	+ 2.8	- .1	+ 2.3	+ .5	- 1.5	- .1	- 1.5
Houston	+ .2	+ .3	- .6	- .4	+ 3.0	+ 1.0	0	0	+ .7
Little Rock	+ .7	- .8	+ .6	- .4	+ .8	+ 3.6	- 1.0	- 2.3	- .3
New Orleans	- 5.1	+ .1	- 1.8	- .6	- .9	-16.8	0	+ .7	- .2
Mountain:									
Butte	+ 2.7	- .3	+ 5.7	+ .1	+ 1.1	+ 4.3	+ .1	+ 2.1	0
Denver	+ 3.5	- .1	+ 2.2	- .1	- 1.3	+10.1	0	- .1	+ .1
Salt Lake City	+ 1.8	+ .1	+ .8	- .2	+ 2.0	+ 5.9	0	- .7	- .1
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	0	+ .1	- 2.2	- .1	+ .8	+ 1.5	- .4	+ .1	+ .6
Portland, Oreg.	+ 2.2	- .1	- .8	- .3	+ 1.1	+ 9.3	- .2	- .3	0
San Francisco	- 1.1	0	- 2.3	- .5	+ .8	- 1.9	+ .1	0	+ .2
Seattle	+ 3.0	- .1	+ 4.4	0	+ .1	+ 8.6	+ 2.7	- .1	- .8

Table 3: Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined, (Cont'd.)

Commodity	Average Prices Cents	Percent Change			
		Apr. 20 1943 to May 18 1943	May 12 1942 to May 18 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to May 18 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to May 18 1943
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd.)					
Canned vegetables:					
Beans, green #2 can	15.0	- 2.0	+ 7.1	+ 9.5	+ 50.0
Corn " "	14.0	- 1.4	+ 7.7	+ 5.3	+ 30.8
Peas " "	15.5	- .6	- 1.9	+ 6.2	+ 17.4
Tomatoes " "	12.8	- .8	+ 5.8	+ 10.3	+ 52.4
*Soup, vegetable 10½ oz. can	13.1	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits and vegetables:					
Dried fruits:					
Prunes lb.	16.4	- .6	+ 33.3	+ 10.8	+ 70.8
Dried vegetables:					
Navy beans lb.	10.0	+ 1.0	+ 11.1	+ 9.9	+ 53.8
*Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle oz.	3.7	- 2.6	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:					
Coffee lb.	30.0	- .3	+ 3.8	+ 4.5	+ 44.9
Tea ¼ lb.	21.5	+ 1.4	- 4.0	- 4.0	+ 22.2
*Cocoa ½ lb.	9.2	0	- 9.8	- 9.8	+ 1.1
FATS AND OILS:					
Lard lb.	19.1	- 1.0	+ 6.7	+ 10.4	+105.4
Shortening other than lard:					
In cartons lb.	20.2	+ .5	+ 2.0	+ 3.6	+ 78.8
In other containers "	24.3	- .4	- 5.8	- .4	+ 32.8
Salad dressing pt.	25.1	0	- 1.2	- .4	+ 24.9
Oleomargarine lb.	23.5	0	+ 4.9	+ 4.9	+ 50.6
Peanut butter "	32.5	+ .9	+ 20.8	+ 16.9	+ 81.6
*Oil, cooking or salad pt.	30.5	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:					
Sugar lb.	6.8	- 1.4	- 1.4	- 1.4	+ 33.3
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.6	+ .6	+ 5.4	+ 3.3	+ 14.7
*Molasses 18 oz.	15.6	0	+ 7.6	+ 4.7	+ 16.4
*Apple butter 16 oz.	13.0	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February, 1943.

(7)

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/Table 4 -- Indexes and Percent Changes from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100					Percent Changes			
	May 18	Apr. 20	May 12	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Apr. 20	May 12	Sept. 15	Jan. 14
	1943	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943	1942	1942	1941
	<u>2/</u>					to May 18 1943	to May 18 1943	to May 18 1943	to May 18 1943
United States	143.0	140.6	121.6	126.6	97.8	+ 1.7	+17.6	+13.0	+46.2
New England									
Boston	138.1	137.1	118.3	124.4	95.2	+ .7	+16.7	+11.0	+45.1
Bridgeport	144.7	139.6	121.3	127.1	96.5	+ 3.7	+19.3	+13.8	+49.9
Fall River	140.5	139.3	120.8	125.7	97.5	+ .9	+16.3	+11.8	+44.1
Manchester	142.3	139.2	124.0	126.8	96.6	+ 2.2	+14.8	+12.2	+47.3
New Haven	145.7	138.4	120.6	126.2	95.7	+ 5.3	+20.9	+15.5	+52.2
Portland, Maine	140.3	137.3 ^{3/}	121.7	125.8	95.3	+ 2.2	+15.3	+11.5	+47.2
Providence	141.0	137.0	122.1	126.3	96.3	+ 2.9	+15.5	+11.6	+46.4
Middle Atlantic									
Buffalo	147.8	144.0	125.2	127.6	100.2	+ 2.6	+18.1	+15.8	+47.5
Newark	142.4	140.7 ^{3/}	120.9	128.0	98.8	+ 1.2	+17.8	+11.2	+44.1
New York	143.3	139.9	118.0	125.2	99.5	+ 2.4	+21.4	+14.5	+44.0
Philadelphia	141.6	140.5 ^{3/}	119.4	123.9	95.0	+ .8	+18.6	+14.3	+49.1
Pittsburgh	142.4	139.4	121.4	125.9	98.0	+ 2.2	+17.3	+13.1	+45.3
Rochester	139.6	139.3 ^{3/}	122.3	125.2	99.9	+ .2	+14.1	+11.5	+39.7
Scranton	148.3	143.3	121.0	125.6	97.5	+ 3.5	+22.6	+18.1	+52.1
East North Central									
Chicago	141.1	138.6	121.7	124.9	98.2	+ 1.8	+15.9	+13.0	+43.7
Cincinnati	138.3	138.2	122.4	126.9	96.5	+ .1	+13.0	+ 9.0	+43.3
Cleveland	146.3	141.4	124.1	127.3	99.2	+ 3.5	+17.9	+14.9	+47.5
Columbus, Ohio	136.3	134.8	118.6	119.6	93.4	+ 1.1	+14.9	+14.0	+45.9
Detroit	143.4	137.4	122.4	124.7	97.0	+ 4.4	+17.2	+15.0	+47.8
Indianapolis	140.2	138.0	125.0	127.1	98.2	+ 1.6	+12.2	+10.5	+42.8
Milwaukee	141.9	137.4	119.8	121.0	95.9	+ 3.3	+18.4	+17.3	+48.0
Peoria	148.7	144.0	129.0	130.7	99.0	+ 3.3	+15.3	+13.8	+50.2
Springfield, Ill.	148.5	144.8	128.0	130.2	96.2	+ 2.6	+16.0	+14.1	+54.4
West North Central									
Cedar Rapids ^{4/}	144.3	141.1	123.9	121.2	95.9	+ 2.3	+16.5	+19.1	+50.5
Kansas City	137.9	137.4	118.8	120.7	92.4	+ .4	+16.1	+14.3	+49.2
Minneapolis	134.9	133.5	120.9	123.3	99.0	+ 1.0	+11.6	+ 9.4	+36.3
Omaha	137.9	135.2	119.9	123.2	97.9	+ 2.0	+15.0	+11.9	+40.9
St. Louis	144.7	142.4	123.8	126.7	99.2	+ 1.6	+16.9	+14.2	+45.9
St. Paul	134.8	133.6	118.7	120.8	98.6	+ .9	+13.6	+11.6	+36.7
Wichita ^{4/}	150.7	152.7	129.0	132.0	97.2	- 1.3	+16.8	+14.2	+55.0

^{1/} Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried worker, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

^{2/} Preliminary.

^{3/} Revised.

^{4/} Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

Table 3: Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity		Average Prices Cents	Percent Change			
			Apr. 20 1943 to May 18 1943	May 12 1942 to May 18 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to May 18 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to May 18 1943
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:						
Cereals:						
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	60.8	- 0.5	+ 17.8	+ 12.0	+ 46.9
Macaroni	lb.	15.3	+ 2.0	+ 7.7	+ 8.5	+ 10.9
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.7	- 1.7	- 1.7	- 1.2	+ .9
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.8	- 2.9	- 5.6	- 2.9	- 4.2
Corn meal	lb.	5.6	+ 1.8	+ 19.1	+ 12.0	+ 33.3
*Rice	"	12.7	- 1.6	+ 3.3	+ 1.6	+ 60.8
Rolled oats	"	8.7	- 2.2	+ 1.2	0	+ 22.5
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	10.6	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:						
Bread, white	lb.	8.9	0	+ 2.3	+ 2.3	+ 14.1
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.8	+ 1.0	+ 3.2	+ 3.2	+ 12.6
Bread, rye	"	9.9	+ 1.0	+ 2.1	+ 2.1	+ 10.0
Vanilla cookies	"	29.1	+ .3	+ 5.1	+ 7.8	+ 15.9
Soda crackers	"	17.8	+ .6	+ 8.5	+ 7.2	+ 18.7
MEATS:						
Beef:						
Round steak	lb.	46.8	+ 2.2	+ 5.9	+ 5.9	+ 21.2
Rib roast	"	37.7	+ 3.3	+ 10.9	+ 8.6	+ 19.7
Chuck roast	"	31.8	- .3	+ 10.0	+ 6.0	+ 26.2
*Stew meat	"	35.0	- 1.4	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver	"	37.5	+ .3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Hamburger	"	32.2	- 2.1	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:						
Cutlets	lb.	51.3	- 7.4	- 4.3	- 6.6	+ 13.5
*Roast, boned and rolled	"	37.7	+ 4.7	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:						
Chops	lb.	41.9	- .5	- 3.0	- 2.8	+ 44.0
Bacon, sliced	"	45.7	+ 1.3	+ 16.3	+ 11.7	+ 51.8
Ham, sliced	"	59.2	- 1.7	+ .7	- .7	+ 31.3
Ham, whole	"	39.8	0	+ 5.3	+ 3.9	+ 51.9
Salt pork	"	24.7	- .8	+ 2.9	+ 3.8	+ 47.9
*Liver	"	23.6	+ .4	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage	"	38.3	+ .3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologna, big	"	33.8	+ .3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:						
Leg	lb.	41.8	+ 4.8	+ 23.7	+ 10.3	+ 50.4
Rib chops	"	48.6	- .2	+ 17.7	+ 3.2	+ 38.9

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February, 1943.

(5)

Table 3: Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined, (Cont'd.)

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change			
		Apr. 20 1943 to May 18 1943	May 12 1942 to May 18 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to May 18 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to May 18 1943
	Cents				
MEATS: (Continued)					
Poultry:					
Roasting chickens <u>2</u> / lb.	45.4	+ 0.8	+ 30.2	+ 10.4	+ 51.9
Fish:					
Fish (fresh, frozen) <u>2</u> / " <u>1</u> /		- 5.0	+ 41.1	+ 22.2	74.3
Salmon, pink 16-oz. can	24.0	+ 3.0	+ 10.1	+ 10.1	+ 52.9
*Salmon, red " "	41.4	+ .5	+ 3.5	+ 2.0	+ 56.8
DAIRY PRODUCTS:					
Butter lb.	55.6	- .5	+ 21.7	+ 9.9	+ 46.3
Cheese "	38.4	0	+ 12.9	+ 12.0	+ 42.2
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	+ 4.7	+ 4.0	+ 20.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.4	0	+ 6.7	+ 6.7	+ 21.0
Milk, fresh (average) "	15.2	0	+ 5.6	+ 4.8	+ 19.7
Milk, evaporated 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. can	10.1	0	+ 16.1	+ 13.5	+ 42.3
EGGS:					
Eggs, fresh <u>2</u> / doz.	50.2	+ .6	+ 23.1	- 8.4	+ 45.9
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:					
Fresh fruits and vegetables:					
Fresh fruits:					
Apples lb.	12.9	+21.7	+ 72.0	+108.1	+148.1
Bananas "	11.7	- .8	- 2.5	+ 13.6	+ 77.3
Oranges doz.	42.2	+ 5.8	+ 34.4	+ 7.9	+ 54.6
*Grapefruit ea.	7.8	+ 8.3	+ 23.8	- 17.0	<u>3</u> /
Fresh vegetables:					
Beans, green lb.	17.4	-35.1	+ 29.9	+ 50.0	+ 24.3
Cabbage "	11.5	0	+155.6	+194.9	+238.2
Carrots bunch	8.2	+ 3.8	+ 24.2	+ 18.8	+ 36.7
Lettuce head	16.5	+ 3.1	+ 79.3	+ 32.0	+ 96.4
Onions lb.	8.6	+ 1.2	+ 26.5	+ 91.1	+138.9
Potatoes 15 lb.	92.5	+16.1	+ 74.5	+ 91.5	+216.8
Spinach lb.	11.6	- 8.7	+ 56.8	+ 8.4	+ 58.9
Sweetpotatoes "	17.9	+40.9	+231.5	+179.7	+258.0
*Beets bunch	11.5	0	<u>4</u> /	<u>4</u> /	<u>4</u> /
Canned fruits and vegetables:					
Canned fruits:					
Peaches #2 $\frac{1}{2}$ can	26.5	+ .4	+ 13.7	+ 10.4	+ 60.6
Pineapple " "	28.7	- 2.7	+ 5.9	+ 1.4	+ 37.3
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.0	0	+ 42.9	+ 12.9	<u>3</u> /

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October, 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February, 1943.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

(8)

Table 4 -- Indexes and Percent Changes from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100					Percent Changes			
	May 18	Apr. 20	May 12	Sept. 15	Jan. 11	Apr. 20	May 12	Sept. 15	Jan. 11
	1943	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943	1942	1942	1941
	2/ 1943					to May 18 1943	to May 18 1943	to May 18 1943	to May 18 1943
South Atlantic									
Atlanta	142.9	140.3	120.4	125.9	94.3	+ 1.9	+18.7	+13.5	+51.5
Baltimore	152.6	148.63/	125.8	131.2	97.9	+ 2.7	+21.3	+16.3	+55.9
Charleston, S.C.	140.3	140.4	123.2	126.6	95.9	- .1	+13.9	+10.8	+46.3
Jacksonville	151.5	153.4	127.4	134.2	98.8	- 1.2	+18.9	+12.9	+53.3
Norfolk 5/	153.3	152.0	126.1	131.9	95.8	+ .9	+21.6	+16.2	+60.0
Richmond	141.5	142.4	120.9	126.2	93.7	- .6	+17.0	+12.1	+51.0
Savannah	153.8	152.53/	130.3	133.3	100.55	+ .9	+18.0	+15.4	+53.0
Washington, D.C.	142.5	139.9	120.7	128.1	97.7	+ 1.9	+18.1	+11.2	+45.9
Winston-Salem 4/	140.0	138.2	119.3	119.8	93.7	+ 1.3	+17.4	+16.9	+49.4
East South Central									
Birmingham	140.7	141.0	120.5	125.3	96.0	- .2	+16.8	+12.3	+46.6
Jackson 4/	153.0	155.9	128.3	141.0	105.3	- 1.9	+19.3	+ 8.5	+45.3
Knoxville 4/	156.6	156.7	131.0	134.2	97.1	- .1	+19.5	+16.7	+61.3
Louisville	141.5	138.4	122.6	124.2	95.5	+ 2.2	+15.4	+13.9	+48.2
Memphis	150.1	149.23/	123.5	129.7	94.2	+ .6	+21.5	+15.7	+59.3
Mobile	149.9	150.53/	126.8	133.9	97.9	- .4	+18.2	+11.9	+53.1
West South Central									
Dallas	138.2	137.03/	116.8	123.7	92.6	+ .9	+18.3	+11.7	+49.2
Houston	143.7	143.42/	125.9	130.8	102.6	+ .2	+14.1	+ 9.9	+40.1
Little Rock	141.8	140.8	123.2	129.2	95.6	+ .7	+15.1	+ 9.8	+48.3
New Orleans	152.5	160.7	129.0	135.9	101.9	- 5.1	+18.2	+12.2	+49.7
Mountain									
Butte	138.3	134.7	121.5	124.6	98.7	+ 2.7	+13.8	+11.0	+40.1
Denver	143.8	139.0	122.9	126.8	94.8	+ 3.5	+17.0	+13.4	+51.7
Salt Lake City	144.7	142.2	124.2	130.1	97.5	+ 1.8	+16.5	+11.2	+48.4
Pacific									
Los Angeles	146.2	146.2	128.1	137.9	101.85	0	+14.1	+ 6.0	+43.6
Portland, Oreg.	153.6	150.3	134.5	141.2	101.7	+ 2.2	+14.2	+ 8.8	+51.0
San Francisco	148.0	149.7	125.5	133.5	99.6	- 1.1	+17.9	+10.9	+48.6
Seattle	150.3	145.93/	129.9	137.3	101.0	+ 3.0	+15.7	+ 9.5	+48.8

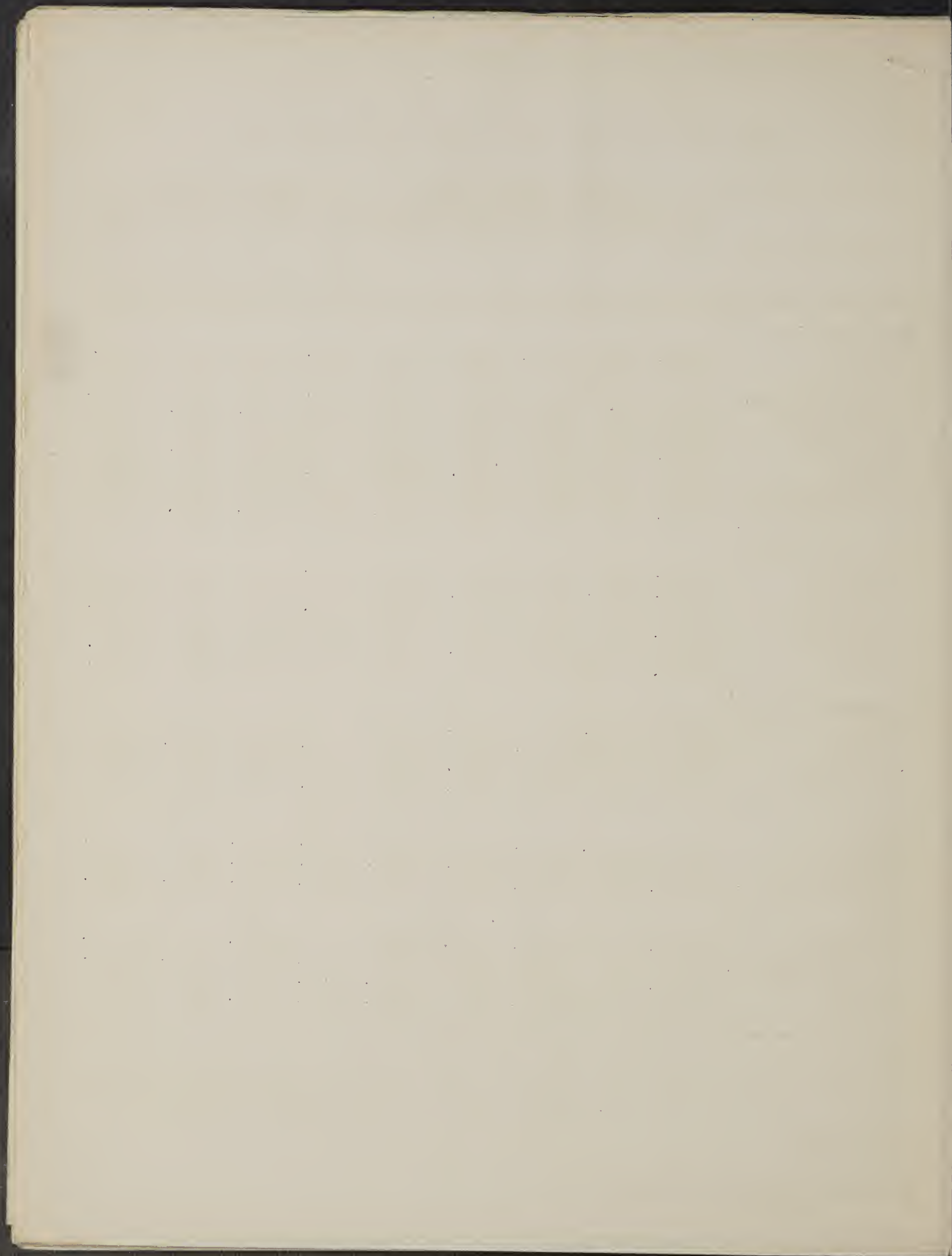
1/Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/Preliminary.

3/Revised.

4/Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

5/Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.



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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Prices and Cost of Living Branch

THE COST OF LIVING

June 15, 1943

With other living costs relatively stable, a drop in fresh vegetable and butter prices cut the cost of living for city workers by 0.2 percent in the month ending June 15 -- the first month to show a reduction since a year before Pearl Harbor, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins reported today.

"This small decrease compares with increases of 0.8 percent for the month ending May 15, 1.1 percent in the month ending April 15, and 1.5 percent for the month ending March 15," she said.

"Led by potatoes, which dropped 9 percent, against a usual slight rise at this time of the year, fresh vegetables showed more-than-seasonal declines of 8 to 13 percent from their previous abnormal levels as new crops came onto the market and as victory gardens began to produce. Butter dropped about 5 cents a pound to a national average of 50½ cents a pound under the subsidy program. Butter and potatoes together make up about 9 percent of the cost of food and about 4 percent of the total cost of living in the monthly index compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"Victory gardens will affect the level of the cost of living index only as they lower commercial prices; no account can be taken in the index of the drop in food costs during the summer for many millions of families who grow their own vegetables. The index cannot reflect the added effort and inconvenience of wartime living, but it is designed to measure changes in retail prices of goods and services currently purchased by families of city wage earners and clerical workers.

"Food prices as a whole, making up over 40 percent of the index, declined 0.8 percent because of lower prices for fresh vegetables and butter. Prices of canned fruits and vegetables declined 0.5 percent as OPA established local dollar and cents ceilings in many large cities in May. Eggs, apples and oranges showed the chief increases because of seasonal reductions in supply. Prices of meats were generally unchanged, slight increases for beef, lamb, and fish being balanced by slight decreases for pork and chickens. Most costs making up the other 60 percent of the index remained fairly stable. Declines ranging from less than 1 percent to almost 12 percent were reported for rayon hose, while there were increases in the cost of cotton underwear and pajamas because of the disappearance of lower-priced lines. Prices of summer clothing were higher than last June. Men's shirts made in accordance with WPB limitation orders came onto the market slightly below the May price.

"Miscellaneous goods and services, such as medical care, movies, and beauty and barber shop services, continued to increase. Cost of automobile collision insurance was reduced because of the increasing age of cars on the road.

"Housefurnishings, fuel prices and utility rates were generally stable, and rents were reported practically unchanged from the March levels.

"The whole cost of living index now stands at 124.8 percent of the 1935-39 average, 23.8 percent above January 1941, base date of Little Steel, and 7.6 percent above May 1942, when the OPA initiated retail price control. Food prices, however, are 45 percent above January 1941 and over 16 percent above May 1942".

Table 1.

Report for June 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100 ^{1/}

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
June 15	116.4	123.2	125.3	108.5	105.0	122.3	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: May 15	125.1	143.0	127.9	108.0	107.6	125.1	115.3
June 15	124.8	141.9	127.9	108.0	107.7	125.4	115.7

Table 1a. Percent of Change

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
May 15, 1943 to June 15, 1943	-0.2	-0.8	0	0	+0.1	+0.2	+0.3
Sept. 15, 1942 to June 15, 1943	+5.9	+12.1	+1.7	0	+1.4	+1.5	+3.9
June 15, 1942 to June 15, 1943	+7.2	+15.2	+2.1	-0.5	+2.6	+2.5	+4.3
May 15, 1942 to June 15, 1943	+7.6	+16.7	+1.3	+1.7	+2.7	+2.6	+4.3
Jan. 15, 1941 to June 15, 1943	+23.8	+45.1	+27.0	+2.9	+6.8	+25.3	+13.5
Aug. 15, 1939 to June 15, 1943	+26.6	+51.8	+27.5	+3.5	+10.5	+24.7	+15.2

^{1/} These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 2

Report for June 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change between May 15, 1943 and June 15, 1943 by Groups*

Area and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	-0.2	-0.8 <u>1/</u>	0	0	+0.1	+0.2	+0.3
New England:							
Boston	-0.4	-0.9	-0.2	0	0	+0.3	+0.4
Manchester	<u>2/</u>	+0.8	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Portland, Maine	<u>2/</u>	+0.2	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	-0.1	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	-0.8	-1.8	+0.1	0	-0.2	+0.1	-0.2
New York	-0.3	-1.3	+0.2	+0.1	+0.3	+0.3	+1.2
Philadelphia	-0.8	-1.7	-0.2	0	-0.1	+0.4	0
Pittsburgh	0	+0.1	+0.2	0	0	+0.4	-0.1
Scranton	<u>2/</u>	-2.6	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
East North Central:							
Chicago	-0.3	-0.8	+0.2	0	0	+0.1	+0.1
Cincinnati	+0.4	+0.7	-0.2	0	-0.1	+0.2	+0.6
Cleveland	+0.9	+2.2	-0.2	+0.1	-0.2	+0.1	+0.3
Detroit	-0.4	-1.3	+0.1	+0.1	-0.1	+0.2	+0.6
Indianapolis	<u>2/</u>	+0.1	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	+1.9	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Milwaukee	<u>2/</u>	-2.3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	-0.1	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
West North Central:							
Kansas City	-0.5	-1.4	+0.2	+0.1	0	+0.9	0
Minneapolis	+0.1	-0.6	+0.5	+0.1	+0.4	+0.2	+0.9
St. Louis	-0.3	-1.0	+0.1	-0.1	0	+0.1	+0.4
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta	<u>2/</u>	+0.7	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Baltimore	-0.1	-0.1	0	-0.1	-0.1	+0.1	-0.1
Jacksonville	<u>2/</u>	+0.1	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Norfolk	<u>2/</u>	-1.0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	-0.2	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Richmond	<u>2/</u>	-1.3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Savannah	+0.3	0	+0.1	0	0	+0.1	+1.7
Washington, D. C.	+0.1	+0.1	+0.6	0	-0.4	+0.2	-0.1
East South Central:							
Birmingham	+0.5	+0.9	+0.1	0	+0.7	+0.4	+0.3
Memphis	<u>2/</u>	-1.2	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	-0.2	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Mobile	<u>2/</u>	-0.1	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	+8.8	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
West South Central:							
Houston	-1.0	-2.6	-0.6	-0.1	+0.7	+0.2	+0.5
New Orleans	<u>2/</u>	-0.2	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	-0.3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Mountain:							
Denver	-0.7	-1.9	+0.2	-0.1	-0.4	+0.1	+0.5
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	+0.4	+0.4	+0.2	+0.1	0	+0.1	+0.9
Portland, Oregon	<u>2/</u>	-1.0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
San Francisco	+0.5	+1.2	+0.2	0	0	0	-0.4
Seattle	-1.1	-2.5	-0.5	+0.4	0	+0.3	-0.2

* These percent changes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/Based on data for 56 cities.

2/Monthly data not available.

Table 3.

Report for June 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and Other Specified Dates*

Area and City	Percentage Changes				
	June 15, 1942	Aug. 15, 1939	Jan. 1, 1941	May 15, 1942	Sept. 15, 1942
	to June 15, 1943	to June 15, 1943	to June 15, 1943	to June 15, 1943	to June 15, 1943
Average:					
Large Cities	+7.2	+26.6	+23.8	+7.6	+5.9
New England:					
Boston	+6.9	+25.4	+22.9	+7.4	+4.8
Manchester	+7.9	+31.4	+28.2	<u>1/</u>	+6.9
Portland, Maine	+6.7	+28.2	+26.4	<u>1/</u>	+5.5
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+5.7	+29.7	+25.4	+6.1	+6.1
New York	+8.4	+25.1	+22.6	+9.3	+6.4
Philadelphia	+7.7	+26.6	+24.8	+7.9	+5.9
Pittsburgh	+6.8	+26.9	+23.4	+7.9	+6.3
Scranton	+8.1	+28.8	+24.6	<u>1/</u>	+7.3
East North Central:					
Chicago	+6.7	+25.7	+22.6	+6.5	+5.8
Cincinnati	+6.4	+27.7	+24.8	+7.2	+5.3
Cleveland	+8.1	+29.2	+26.7	+8.8	+8.0
Detroit	+7.0	+28.7	+25.5	+6.7	+7.1
Indianapolis	+5.9	+28.8	+23.7	<u>1/</u>	+6.0
Milwaukee	+6.1	+26.5	+23.7	<u>1/</u>	+6.4
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+6.8	+23.6	+23.9	+6.8	+6.3
Minneapolis	+5.2	+22.3	+19.7	+5.2	+4.4
St. Louis	+6.0	+26.0	+22.4	+6.9	+6.0
South Atlantic:					
Atlanta	+8.4	+27.8	+25.5	<u>1/</u>	+6.7
Baltimore	+7.5	+29.8	+27.2	+8.4	+6.9
Jacksonville	+9.0	+32.7	+28.3	<u>1/</u>	+7.6
Norfolk	+9.2	+34.4	+30.6	<u>1/</u>	+7.6
Richmond	+5.9	+25.1	+23.1	<u>1/</u>	+4.6
Savannah	+10.1	+33.2	+30.5	+9.4	+8.4
Washington, D. C.	+7.2	+25.6	+23.9	+7.9	+5.7
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+7.9	+28.3	+24.3	+6.5	+6.4
Memphis	+8.2	+29.9	+27.3	<u>1/</u>	+6.5
Mobile	+8.2	+30.1	+27.8	<u>1/</u>	+6.1
West South Central:					
Houston	+6.5	+22.3	+20.8	+6.0	+4.4
New Orleans	+9.6	+30.0	+27.4	<u>1/</u>	+6.6
Mountain:					
Denver	+6.7	+25.3	+23.5	+6.8	+5.4
Pacific					
Los Angeles	+6.5	+25.7	+23.2	+6.9	+3.8
Portland, Oregon	+7.0	+30.6	+28.1	<u>1/</u>	+4.6
San Francisco	+9.2	+29.6	+26.4	+9.4	+6.5
Seattle	+7.5	+27.7	+25.5	+5.7	+4.4

* These percent changes are based on cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Data not available.

Table 4.

Report for June 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Between March 15, 1943 and June 15, 1943 by Groups*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+1.6	+3.3 <u>1/</u>	+0.2	0	+0.3	+0.7	+1.0
New England:							
Boston	+1.0	+2.0	0	0	+0.2	+0.1	+0.8
Manchester	+1.8	+4.1	0	0	+0.1	+1.0	-0.3
Portland, Maine	+2.0	+4.6	-0.2	+0.2	0	+0.2	+0.9
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	+1.1	+2.8	-0.2	0	-0.2	+0.1	+0.2
New York	+1.5	+2.5	+0.8	+0.1	+0.1	+0.6	+1.6
Philadelphia	+2.0	+4.3	+0.2	0	-0.1	+1.0	+0.3
Pittsburgh	+1.9	+3.7	+1.2	0	+0.2	+1.2	+0.4
Scranton	+2.6	+5.5	+0.2	-0.2	0	+0.8	+0.5
East North Central:							
Chicago	+1.5	+3.0	0	+0.1	0	+0.2	+0.6
Cincinnati	+1.9	+3.0	+0.2	0	-0.1	+2.1	+2.6
Cleveland	+2.9	+7.2	0	+0.1	0	+0.4	+0.3
Detroit	+2.3	+4.3	0	+0.1	-0.1	+0.7	+2.6
Indianapolis	+2.2	+4.1	-0.2	+0.3	+4.1	+1.3	+0.9
Milwaukee	+1.7 <u>2/</u>	+3.4 <u>2/</u>	+0.2	0	+2.4	+0.1	+0.8
West North Central:							
Kansas City	+1.0	+1.7	+0.7	+0.3	0	+2.1	+0.9
Minneapolis	+0.7	+0.8	+0.2	+0.2	+1.9	+0.6	+0.8
St. Louis	+1.5	+3.2	+0.1	0	0	+1.0	+0.6
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta	+1.8	+4.5	+0.9	-0.1	-0.2	+0.3	-0.2
Baltimore	+2.6	+5.9	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	+0.1	+0.5
Jacksonville	+2.9	+3.9	+1.0	-0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+5.1
Norfolk	+2.2	+5.0	+0.4	-0.3	-0.2	+0.5	+0.2
Richmond	+1.2	+2.8	-0.6	0	0	+0.3	+0.6
Savannah	+3.2	+6.0	+0.4	0	0	+0.1	+3.3
Washington, D. C.	+2.1	+4.2	+0.7	0	-0.3 <u>3/</u>	+0.1	+2.0
East South Central:							
Birmingham	+2.9	+5.3	+1.0	+0.5	+2.0	+1.5	+2.2
Memphis	+1.1	+2.4	+0.9	+0.1	-0.2	+0.3	+0.3
Mobile	+1.8	+2.9	-0.2	-0.8	+8.8	0	+0.9
West South Central:							
Houston	-0.2	-1.9	0	0	+0.7	+0.3	+2.2
New Orleans	-0.4	-0.7	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.0	+0.2
Mountain:							
Denver	+1.4	+2.8	-0.4	-0.1	-0.4	+0.1	+1.4
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	+1.4	+2.8	-0.1	+0.1	0	+0.3	+0.9
Portland, Oregon	+1.6	+2.4	+0.5	+0.2	+0.1	+0.9	+2.0
San Francisco	+2.1	+4.2	-0.5	0	0	0	+1.1
Seattle	+0.9	+1.3	-0.3	+0.5	+0.5	+0.8	+0.9

* These percent changes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Based on data for 56 cities.

2/ Indexes for March revised: all items 120.7; food 134.2.

3/ Index for March revised: 105.6

Table 5

Report for June 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

(Some Indexes for April and May Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Average: Large Cities							
April 15	124.1	140.61/	127.9	108.0	107.5	124.8	114.9
May 15	125.1	143.01/	127.9	108.0	107.6	125.1	115.3
June 15	124.8	141.91/	127.9	108.0	107.7	125.4	115.7
Atlanta:							
April 15	2/	140.3	2/	2/	113.1	2/	2/
May 15	2/	142.9	2/	2/	112.5	2/	2/
June 15	125.2	143.9	128.5	106.4	112.5	120.3	117.1
Baltimore:							
April 15	126.7	148.6	127.8	106.8	106.8	128.9	114.4
May 15	128.2	152.6	127.4	106.8	106.8	128.9	114.4
June 15	128.1	152.5	127.4	106.7	106.7	129.0	114.3
Birmingham:							
April 15	125.5	141.0	128.3	121.6	101.1	120.8	114.8
May 15	125.8	140.7	129.2	121.8	101.7	121.3	115.5
June 15	126.4	141.9	129.3	121.8	102.4	121.8	115.9
Boston:							
April 15	121.8	137.1	123.5	104.9	118.3	119.8	111.4
May 15	122.3	138.1	123.6	104.9	118.4	119.5	111.8
June 15	121.8	136.8	123.3	104.9	118.4	119.8	112.2
Buffalo:							
April 15	127.4	144.0	128.0	114.6	105.0	126.5	121.4
May 15	128.8	147.8	127.5	114.6	105.0	126.5	121.8
June 15	127.8	145.2	127.6	114.6	104.8	126.6	121.6
Chicago:							
April 15	123.5	138.6	123.7	114.5	103.2	120.2	113.6
May 15	124.5	141.1	123.5	114.5	103.2	120.3	113.7
June 15	124.1	140.0	123.7	114.5	103.2	120.4	113.8
Cincinnati:							
April 15	123.4	138.2	132.8	105.1	103.9	126.9	114.5
May 15	123.8	138.3	132.9	105.1	103.9	128.4	116.1
June 15	124.3	139.2	132.6	105.1	103.8	128.6	116.8
Cleveland:							
April 15	126.2	141.4	131.0	115.3	113.7	125.0	114.9
May 15	128.0	146.3	131.0	115.3	113.7	125.0	115.0
June 15	129.2	149.5	130.8	115.4	113.5	125.1	115.3
Denver:							
April 15	122.5	139.0	124.7	109.1	100.1	121.8	114.5
May 15	124.4	143.8	124.0	109.1	100.1	121.8	115.5
June 15	123.5	141.0	124.2	109.0	99.7	121.9	116.1
Detroit:							
April 15	125.0	137.4	129.3	114.3	108.9	122.4	120.7
May 15	127.3	143.4	129.2	114.3	108.9	122.7	121.3
June 15	126.8	141.6	129.3	114.4	108.8	123.0	122.0
Houston:							
April 15	124.0	143.4	129.7	109.0	92.2	122.4	116.5
May 15	124.4	143.7	130.2	109.1	92.2	122.6	117.4
June 15	123.2	140.0	129.4	109.0	92.8	122.8	118.0

Table 5. (Continued)

Report for June 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

(Some Indexes for April and May Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Indianapolis:							
April 15	<u>2/</u>	138.0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	108.3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
May 15	<u>2/</u>	140.2	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	108.3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
June 15	126.2	140.3	128.5	115.6	110.4	129.4	118.2
Jacksonville:							
April 15	<u>2/</u>	153.4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	112.1	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
May 15	<u>2/</u>	151.5	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	112.1	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
June 15	130.7	151.7	127.8	112.1	112.1	125.8	122.6
Kansas City:							
April 15	122.2	137.4	125.4	108.5	107.9	118.5	116.1
May 15	122.5	137.9	125.2	108.6	107.9	119.2	116.7
June 15	121.9	136.0	125.4	108.7	107.9	120.3	116.7
Los Angeles:							
April 15	125.9	146.2	129.8	109.9	94.2	119.1	116.2
May 15	125.8	146.2	129.3	109.9	94.2	119.2	116.2
June 15	126.3	146.8	129.6	110.0	94.2	119.3	117.2
Manchester:							
April 15	<u>2/</u>	139.2	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	123.5	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
May 15	<u>2/</u>	142.3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	123.5	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
June 15	128.5	143.4	130.4	107.6	123.5	122.6	114.0
Memphis:							
April 15	<u>2/</u>	149.2	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	104.4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
May 15	<u>2/</u>	150.1	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	104.4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
June 15	127.0	148.3	136.5	115.6	104.2	124.7	111.0
Milwaukee:							
April 15	<u>2/</u>	137.4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	104.6	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
May 15	<u>2/</u>	141.9	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	106.7	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
June 15	122.7	138.7	124.6	108.2	106.6	124.6	115.0
Minneapolis:							
April 15	121.0	133.5	127.7	109.9	100.0	125.2	116.2
May 15	121.8	134.9	127.1	109.9	101.5	125.5	117.2
June 15	121.9	134.1	127.7	110.0	101.9	125.8	118.2
Mobile:							
April 15	<u>2/</u>	150.5	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	103.4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
May 15	<u>2/</u>	149.9	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	103.4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
June 15	128.3	149.8	127.7	113.6	112.5	121.4	115.5
New Orleans:							
April 15	<u>2/</u>	160.7	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	96.3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
May 15	<u>2/</u>	152.5	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	96.3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
June 15	129.6	152.2	132.7	107.0	96.0	127.4	114.0
New York:							
April 15	122.8	139.9	127.5	103.2	110.6	118.5	113.3
May 15	124.2	143.3	127.8	103.2	110.4	118.6	113.6
June 15	123.8	141.4	128.0	103.3	110.7	119.0	115.0
Norfolk:							
April 15	<u>2/</u>	152.0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	116.2	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
May 15	<u>2/</u>	153.3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	116.2	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
June 15	131.4	151.7	132.6	108.6	116.0	129.1	123.7

Table 5. (Continued)

Report for June 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

(Some Indexes for April and May Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Philadelphia:							
April 15	124.3	140.5	127.6	106.7	105.9	123.0	114.7
May 15	124.8	141.6	127.7	106.7	105.9	123.4	114.8
June 15	123.8	139.2	127.5	106.7	105.8	123.9	114.8
Pittsburgh:							
April 15	123.7	139.4	130.8	107.3	110.3	122.8	114.2
May 15	124.9	142.4	131.2	107.3	110.3	123.1	114.3
June 15	124.9	142.3	131.5	107.3	110.3	123.6	114.2
Portland, Maine:							
April 15	2/	137.3	2/	2/	117.0	2/	2/
May 15	2/	140.3	2/	2/	117.0	2/	2/
June 15	124.5	140.6	125.7	106.4	116.9	121.1	117.4
Portland, Oregon:							
April 15	2/	150.3	2/	2/	116.5	2/	2/
May 15	2/	153.6	2/	2/	116.5	2/	2/
June 15	130.7	152.1	129.5	115.4	116.5	122.9	118.7
Richmond:							
April 15	2/	142.4	2/	2/	106.5	2/	2/
May 15	2/	141.5	2/	2/	106.5	2/	2/
June 15	122.6	139.6	132.0	103.9	106.5	127.7	113.1
St. Louis:							
April 15	123.1	142.4	128.8	106.1	106.2	116.6	111.7
May 15	124.0	144.7	128.8	106.2	106.2	117.5	111.8
June 15	123.6	143.3	128.9	106.1	106.2	117.6	112.3
San Francisco:							
April 15	128.5	149.7	128.1	106.0	92.2	119.0	122.4
May 15	128.1	148.0	127.3	106.0	92.2	119.0	123.7
June 15	128.7	149.8	127.5	106.0	92.2	119.0	123.2
Savannah:							
April 15	131.2	152.5	130.3	114.9	113.1	121.4	119.7
May 15	131.9	153.8	130.5	114.9	113.1	121.4	120.6
June 15	132.3	153.8	130.6	114.9	113.1	121.5	122.6
Scranton:							
April 15	2/	143.3	2/	2/	103.9	2/	2/
May 15	2/	148.3	2/	2/	103.9	2/	2/
June 15	123.6	144.4	128.6	97.3	103.9	123.9	110.2
Seattle:							
April 15	127.9	145.9	131.0	110.2	101.9	120.1	123.1
May 15	129.5	150.3	131.0	110.2	101.9	120.4	123.1
June 15	128.1	146.6	130.4	110.6	101.9	120.8	122.8
Washington, D. C.:							
April 15	122.5	139.9	135.0	100.3	105.6	131.4	118.6
May 15	123.7	142.5	134.7	100.3	105.7	131.3	120.3
June 15	123.8	142.7	135.5	100.3	105.3	131.5	120.2

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Based on data for 56 cities.

2/ Monthly data not available.

Un 375c

For release Saturday
July 24, 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Labor Statistics
Prices and Cost of
Living Branch

THE COST OF LIVING
(Including RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD)

June 15, 1943

THE LIBRARY

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With other living costs relatively stable, a drop in fresh vegetable and butter prices cut the cost of living for city workers by 0.2 percent in the month ending June 15 -- the first month to show a reduction since a year before Pearl Harbor, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins reported today.

"This small decrease compares with increases of 0.8 percent for the month ending May 15, 1.1 percent in the month ending April 15, and 1.5 for the month ending March 15," the Secretary said.

"Led by potatoes, which dropped 9 percent, against a usual slight rise at this time of the year, fresh vegetables showed more-than-seasonal declines of 8 to 13 percent from their previous abnormal levels as new crops came onto the market and as victory gardens began to produce. Butter dropped about 5 cents a pound to a national average of 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents a pound under the subsidy program. Butter and potatoes together make up about 9 percent of the cost of food and about 4 percent of the total cost of living in the monthly index compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"Victory gardens will affect the level of the cost of living index only as they lower commercial prices; no account can be taken in the index of the drop in food costs during the summer for many millions of families who grow their own vegetables. The index cannot reflect the added effort and inconvenience of wartime living, but it is designed to measure changes in retail prices of goods and services currently purchased by families of city wage earners and clerical workers.

Food prices as a whole, making up over 40 percent of the index, declined 0.8 percent because of lower prices for fresh vegetables and butter. Prices of canned fruits and vegetables declined 0.5 percent as OPA established local dollar and cents ceilings in many large cities in May. Eggs, apples and oranges showed the chief increases because of seasonal reductions in supply. Prices of meats were generally unchanged, slight increases for beef, lamb and fish being balanced by slight decreases for pork and chickens.

Most costs making up the other 60 percent of the index remained fairly stable. Declines ranging from less than 1 percent to almost 12 percent were reported for rayon hose, while there were increases in the cost of cotton underwear and pajamas because of the disappearance of lower-priced lines. Prices of summer clothing were higher than last June. Men's shirts made in accordance with WPB limitation orders came onto the market slightly below the May price.

Miscellaneous goods and services, such as medical care, movies, and beauty and barber shop services, continued to increase. Cost of automobile collision insurance was reduced because of the increasing age of cars on the road.

Housefurnishings, fuel prices and utility rates were generally stable, and rents were reported practically unchanged from the March levels.

The whole cost of living index now stands at 124.8 percent of the 1935-39 average, 23.8 percent above January 1941, base date of Little Steel, and 7.6 percent above May 1942, when the OPA initiated retail price control. Food prices, however, are 45 percent above January 1941 and over 16 percent above May 1942.

Table 1 -- Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity Group	1943			1942		1941	1939
	June 15	2/ May 18	Sept. 15	June 16	May 12	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All Foods	141.9	143.0	126.6	123.2	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	107.5	107.6	105.4	105.1	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	138.3	138.3	130.6	126.6	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	131.4	3/131.2	126.0	123.3	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	125.4	125.5	124.0	121.9	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	142.7	141.6	133.7	130.7	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	147.2	147.6	133.7	123.3	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	201.1	3/200.5	168.2	158.3	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy Products	133.6	136.9	127.7	122.1	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	146.2	142.1	155.2	119.7	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	187.7	3/190.8	129.7	133.8	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	202.0	205.8	130.3	136.7	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.4	3/131.1	123.8	122.2	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	158.4	158.0	143.4	132.6	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.5	124.5	123.8	122.6	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	126.4	3/126.3	120.7	120.0	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	126.5	3/127.6	127.0	126.7	127.1	95.3	95.6

Table 1-A -- Percent Change

Commodity Group	May 18	Sept. 15	June 16	May 12	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1943	1942	1942	1942	1941	1939
	to	to	to	to	to	to
	June 15	June 15	June 15	June 15	June 15	June 15
	1943	1943	1943	1943	1943	1943
All Foods	- 0.8	+ 12.1	+ 15.2	+ 16.7	+ 45.1	+ 51.8
Cereals and bakery products	- .1	+ 2.0	+ 2.3	+ 2.2	+ 13.3	+ 15.1
Meats	0	+ 5.9	+ 9.2	+ 11.3	+ 36.8	+ 44.5
Beef and veal	+ .2	+ 4.3	+ 6.6	+ 5.9	+ 20.1	+ 31.9
Pork	- .1	+ 1.1	+ 2.9	+ 1.8	+ 45.6	+ 42.5
Lamb	+ .8	+ 6.7	+ 9.2	+ 20.7	+ 44.6	+ 44.4
Chickens	- .3	+ 10.1	+ 19.4	+ 29.8	+ 51.4	+ 55.6
Fish, fresh and canned	+ .3	+ 19.6	+ 27.0	+ 33.3	+ 69.4	+ 101.9
Dairy Products	- 2.4	+ 4.6	+ 9.4	+ 8.4	+ 27.1	+ 43.5
Eggs	+ 2.9	- 5.8	+ 22.1	+ 26.7	+ 50.1	+ 61.2
Fruits and vegetables	- 1.6	+ 44.7	+ 40.3	+ 45.8	+ 101.1	+ 103.1
Fresh	- 1.8	+ 55.0	+ 47.8	+ 55.4	+ 116.3	+ 117.7
Canned	- .5	+ 5.3	+ 6.7	+ 6.3	+ 42.7	+ 42.4
Dried	+ .3	+ 10.5	+ 19.5	+ 20.7	+ 59.0	+ 75.4
Beverages	0	+ .6	+ 1.5	- .1	+ 37.0	+ 31.2
Fats and oils	+ .1	+ 4.7	+ 5.3	+ 3.3	+ 57.4	+ 49.6
Sugar and sweets	- .9	+ .4	- .2	- .5	+ 32.7	+ 32.5

1/ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

Table 2 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - May 18, 1943 to June 15, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugars and Sweets
United States:	- 0.8	- 0.1	0.0	- 2.4	+ 2.9	-1.6	0.0	+0.1	- 0.9
New England:									
Boston	- .9	0	-1.8	- 3.4	+1.8	+1.2	+ 1.4	+ .1	- .7
Bridgeport	- .6	+ .7	- 1.9	- 2.0	+ 1.4	+ .5	+ .3	+1.2	- .4
Fall River	+ .2	+ .2	- .5	- 1.9	+ 2.7	+2.2	0	+ .2	- 1.7
Manchester	+ .8	0	- 1.9	- 1.3	+ 6.6	+5.8	0	- .1	- 1.8
New Haven	- 1.8	- .1	- 1.1	- .5	+ 4.0	-6.0	+ .3	+ .1	- 1.7
Portland, Me..	+ .2	+ .2	- 3.3	- 2.2	+ 1.6	+6.4	- .1	+ .1	- 1.2
Providence	- .9	+ .1	+ .1	- 2.0	+ 2.9	-2.7	0	- .6	- .9
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	- 1.8	- .2	+ .1	- 2.4	+ 2.9	-5.2	+ .6	- .3	- 1.0
Newark	- .2	+ .1	+ .2	- 1.9	+ 4.6	- .7	+ 1.4	- .5	- .2
New York	- 1.3	- .5	+ .7	- 2.9	+ 3.0	-3.7	- .5	- .7	- 1.7
Philadelphia	- 1.7	+ .2	- 1.2	- 2.4	+ 5.3	-4.9	+ .2	+ .3	- 1.4
Pittsburgh	- .1	+ .2	+ 1.1	- 2.4	+ 4.0	- .6	+ 2.0	+ .4	- 1.1
Rochester	- .7	- .2	- 1.9	- 2.7	+ 2.4	+1.4	+ .2	+ .2	0
Seranton	- 2.6	+ .1	- .5	- 4.5	+ 5.4	-6.9	0	- .2	- 2.9
East North Central:									
Chicago	- .8	+ .1	+ .7	- 2.0	+ 1.5	-2.3	- .1	+ .1	+ .7
Cincinnati	+ .7	- .7	+ 1.1	- 1.9	+ 3.0	+2.1	0	+ .6	- 3.4
Cleveland	+ 2.2	- .9	+ .3	- 1.9	+ 1.9	+8.4	- .4	- .2	- .8
Columbus	- 1.3	- .3	- 2.1	- 1.9	+ 1.5	-2.3	+ .1	+ .4	+ .3
Detroit	- 1.3	+ .2	0	- 2.7	+ 1.9	-3.3	- .2	+ .1	- 1.4
Indianapolis	+ .1	+ .3	- .4	- 2.2	+ 2.9	+1.0	- .1	+ .6	+ 1.4
Milwaukee	- 2.3	+ .1	- .1	- 3.2	+ .4	-6.3	+ .3	- .3	- .2
Peoria	- 1.2	- .4	0	- 1.7	+ 3.6	-3.4	- .2	0	- 1.8
Springfield, Ill..	1.4	- .2	- 1.1	- 1.9	+ 5.4	-3.4	0	+ .3	- 1.4
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	- .7	+ .5	- .7	- 2.5	+ 4.1	-1.5	+ .3	+ .8	+ .1
Kansas City	- 1.4	- .3	- .5	- 1.7	+ 2.0	-4.3	+ .1	+ .1	- .5
Minneapolis	- .6	0	+ .3	- 2.9	+ .8	- .2	- .4	+ .3	- .1
Omaha	- .1	- .2	+ .7	- 2.4	+ 3.7	- .1	- .3	- .2	- .5
St. Louis	- 1.0	- .5	+ .6	- 2.2	+ .8	-2.5	+ .3	- .4	- 1.1
St. Paul	- .8	- .1	- .4	- 3.0	+ .9	- .4	- .4	+ .5	+ .1
Wichita	- .7	- .6	+ 1.2	- 2.0	+ 3.7	-2.6	- .4	- .3	- .6

Table 2 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods, (Cont'd)

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - May 18, 1943 to June 15, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	+0.7	+0.6	+0.3	-1.8	+4.0	+2.8	-0.5	0	+0.1
Baltimore	- .1	- .1	+ .8	-1.9	+1.3	- .3	-1.1	0	+ .2
Charleston, S.C.	- .9	+ .2	+ .5	-1.3	+ .7	-3.7	-1.1	- .3	0
Jacksonville	+ .1	+ .4	-1.2	-1.7	+1.6	+2.5	+1.6	- .7	-1.7
Norfolk	-1.0	- .2	+1.6	-2.2	+1.2	-4.4	- .7	0	-1.8
Richmond	-1.3	+ .7	-1.5	-2.5	+2.2	-2.6	0	- .1	-2.1
Savannah	0	+ .2	+ .4	-1.5	+4.2	- .2	0	- .5	- .3
Washington, D.C.	+ .1	- .2	+ .7	-1.8	+3.0	+ .1	+ .1	+1.0	+ .5
Winston-Salem	- .2	+ .1	+ .7	-1.5	+3.0	-2.3	+ .1	+ .8	- .2
East South Central:									
Birmingham	+ .9	+ .1	+3.1	- .7	+2.0	+ .1	- .2	- .6	- .4
Jackson	-2.4	- .9	-2.9	-3.9	-4.4	-1.0	-5.5	-2.9	-3.1
Knoxville	+1.2	+ .7	+1.8	-1.3	+4.5	+1.9	- .2	+ .3	+ .4
Louisville	-1.4	+ .2	+ .1	-1.7	+1.4	-5.4	+ .1	- .6	- .2
Memphis	-1.2	+ .3	- .8	-2.6	+2.4	-2.6	+ .2	- .5	-1.4
Mobile	- .1	+ .1	+ .1	-1.4	+3.8	- .2	- .2	+ .2	-1.7
West South Central:									
Dallas	-1.2	- .2	+1.1	-1.7	+ .1	-4.5	- .3	+ .1	- .8
Houston	-2.6	+ .6	-1.3	-1.8	+ .6	-8.5	+ .6	+ .5	- .7
Little Rock	-1.2	- .7	+ .3	-2.1	+1.1	-3.3	+ .5	- .9	-2.4
New Orleans	- .2	- .1	- .7	-2.3	- .6	+1.7	+ .4	0	+ .3
Mountain:									
Butte	+1.7	- .2	+5.4	-2.3	+ .5	+2.4	- .2	- .3	0
Denver	-1.9	- .4	-2.2	-1.7	+1.9	-3.6	- .3	+1.1	-1.4
Salt Lake City	- .4	+ .3	+ .5	-3.1	+1.5	+ .1	0	- .1	- .7
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	+ .4	- .4	+1.3	-2.0	+5.7	0	+ .6	+2.0	- .4
Portland, Oreg.	-1.0	- .3	+1.1	-1.9	+2.6	-3.8	0	+ .4	0
San Francisco	+1.2	+ .2	-2.5	-2.1	+3.9	+6.4	- .2	- .3	-1.1
Seattle	-2.5	0	0	-2.9	+4.7	-8.6	+ .1	+ .6	- .6

(14) Table 3: Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity		Average Prices Cents	Percent Change				
			May 18 1943 to	June 16 1942 to	May 12 1942 to	Sept. 15 1942 to	Jan. 14 1941 to
			June 15 1943	June 15 1943	June 15 1943	June 15 1943	June 15 1943
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	61.1	/ 0.5	/ 19.3	/ 18.4	/ 12.5	/ 47.6
Macaroni	lb.	15.5	/ 1.3	/ 9.2	/ 9.2	/ 9.9	/ 12.3
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.2	- 1.7	- 3.7	- 3.7	- 3.3	- 1.3
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.7	- 1.5	- 6.9	- 6.9	- 4.3	- 5.6
Corn meal	lb.	5.6	0	/ 19.1	/ 19.1	/ 12.0	/ 33.3
*Rice	"	12.6	0	/ 3.3	/ 2.4	/ 0.8	/ 59.5
Rollled oats	"	8.6	- 1.2	0	0	- 1.2	/ 21.1
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	10.5	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.9	0	/ 2.3	/ 2.3	/ 2.3	/ 14.1
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.8	0	/ 2.1	/ 3.2	/ 3.2	/ 12.6
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	/ 2.1	/ 2.1	/ 2.1	/ 10.0
Vanilla cookies	"	29.2	/ 0.3	/ 5.0	/ 5.4	/ 8.1	/ 16.3
Soda crackers	"	17.7	- 0.6	/ 7.9	/ 7.9	/ 6.6	/ 18.0
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	47.0	/ 0.4	/ 8.3	/ 6.3	/ 6.3	/ 21.8
Rib roast	"	37.6	- 0.3	/ 11.2	/ 10.6	/ 8.4	/ 19.4
Chuck roast	"	31.7	- 0.3	/ 8.9	/ 9.7	/ 5.7	/ 25.8
*Stew meat	"	34.9	/ 1.2	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver	"	37.6	/ 0.3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Hamburger	"	32.1	- 0.3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:							
Cutlets	lb.	50.7	- 1.2	- 5.8	- 5.4	- 7.7	/ 12.2
*Roast, boned and rolled	"	38.0	- 0.3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:							
Chops	lb.	41.9	0	- 0.9	- 3.0	- 2.8	/ 44.0
Bacon, sliced	"	45.7	0	/ 16.9	/ 16.3	/ 11.7	/ 51.8
Ham, sliced	"	58.8	- 0.8	- 0.2	0	- 1.3	/ 30.4
Ham, whole	"	39.8	0	/ 5.6	/ 5.3	/ 3.9	/ 51.9
Salt pork	"	24.7	0	/ 4.2	/ 2.9	/ 3.8	/ 47.9
*Liver	"	23.5	- 0.4	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage	"	38.1	- 0.3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologna, big	"	34.1	/ 0.9	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:							
Leg	lb.	41.8	0	/ 13.0	/ 23.7	/ 10.3	/ 50.4
Rib chops	"	49.3	/ 1.4	/ 6.9	/ 19.4	- 4.7	/ 40.9

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February, 1943.

Table 3: Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined, (Cont'd.) (5)

Commodity	Average Prices Cents	Percent Change				
		May 18 1943 to June 15 1943	June 16 1942 to June 15 1943	May 12 1942 to June 15 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to June 15 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to June 15 1943
MEATS: (Continued)						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens <u>2</u> / lb.	44.4	- 0.3	/ 19.4	/ 29.8	/ 10.1	/ 51.4
Fish:						
Fish(fresh,frozen) <u>2</u> / "	1/	/ 0.2	/ 31.4	/ 40.5	/ 21.6	/ 73.5
Salmon,pink 16-oz. can	24.1	/ 0.4	/ 11.6	/ 10.6	/ 10.6	/ 53.5
*Salmon, red " "	41.6	- 0.5	/ 3.7	/ 4.0	/ 2.5	/ 57.6
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter lb.	50.5	- 9.2	/ 14.0	/ 10.5	- 0.2	/ 32.9
Cheese "	38.5	/ 0.3	/ 13.6	/ 13.2	/ 12.2	/ 42.6
Milk,fresh (del'd) qt.	15.5	- 0.6	/ 4.0	/ 4.0	/ 3.3	/ 19.2
Milk,fresh (groce.) "	14.4	0	/ 6.7	/ 6.7	/ 6.7	/ 21.0
Milk,fresh (aver.) "	15.1	- 0.7	/ 4.9	/ 4.9	/ 4.1	/ 18.9
Milk,evap. 14 ¹ / ₂ -oz. can	10.1	0	/ 16.1	/ 16.1	/ 13.5	/ 42.3
EGGS:						
Eggs, fresh <u>2</u> /	51.7	/ 2.9	/ 22.1	/ 26.7	- 5.8	/ 50.1
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits & vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples lb.	14.9	/ 15.5	/ 58.5	/ 98.7	/ 140.3	/ 186.5
Bananas "	11.7	0	/ 11.4	- 2.5	/ 13.6	/ 77.3
Oranges doz.	43.7	/ 3.6	/ 20.7	/ 39.2	/ 11.8	/ 60.1
*Grapefruit ea.	8.7	/ 11.5	/ 16.0	/ 38.1	- 7.4	<u>3</u> /
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green lb.	15.8	- 9.2	/ 54.9	/ 17.9	/ 36.2	/ 12.9
Cabbage "	10.0	- 13.0	/ 92.3	/ 122.2	/ 156.4	/ 194.1
Carrots bunch	8.3	/ 1.2	/ 20.3	/ 25.8	/ 30.3	/ 38.3
Lettuce head	15.2	- 7.9	/ 46.2	/ 65.2	/ 21.6	/ 81.0
Onions lb.	9.0	/ 4.7	/ 80.0	/ 32.4	/ 100.0	/ 150.0
Potatoes 15 lb.	84.2	- 9.0	/ 45.4	/ 58.9	/ 74.3	/ 188.4
Spinach lb.	10.2	- 12.1	/ 37.8	/ 37.8	- 4.7	/ 39.7
Sweetpotatoes "	18.1	/ 1.1	/ 206.8	/ 235.2	/ 182.8	/ 262.0
*Beets bunch	11.6	0	<u>4</u> /	<u>4</u> /	<u>4</u> /	<u>4</u> /
Canned fruits & vegetables:						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches #2 ¹ / ₂ can	26.5	0	/ 13.7	/ 13.7	/ 10.4	/ 60.6
Pineapple " "	28.3	- 1.4	/ 4.8	/ 4.4	0	/ 35.4
Grapefruit juice #2 "	14.1	/ .7	/ 38.2	/ 43.9	/ 13.7	<u>3</u> /

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

(6)

Table 3: Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined, (Cont'd.)

Commodity	Average Prices Cents	Percent Change				
		May 18 1943 to	June 16 1942 to	May 12 1942 to	Sept. 15 1942 to	Jan. 14 1941 to
		June 15 1943	June 15 1943	June 15 1943	June 15 1943	June 15 1943
FRUITS & VEGETABLES:(Cont'd)						
Canned vegetables:						
Beans, green #2 can	14.8	- 1.3	/ 6.5	/ 5.7	/ 8.0	/ 48.0
Corn " "	14.0	0	/ 7.7	/ 7.7	/ 5.3	/ 30.8
Peas " "	15.1	- 2.6	- 3.8	- 4.4	/ 3.4	/ 14.4
Tomatoes " "	12.6	- 1.6	/ 5.0	/ 4.1	/ 8.6	/ 50.0
*Soup,veg. 11 oz. "	13.1	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits & vegetables:						
Dried fruits:						
Prunes 1b.	16.5	/ 0.6	/ 32.0	/ 34.1	/ 11.5	/ 71.9
Dried vegetables:						
Navy beans 1b.	10.0	0	/ 12.4	/ 11.1	/ 9.9	/ 53.8
*Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle oz.	3.7	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:						
Coffee 1b.	30.0	0	/ 5.6	/ 3.8	/ 4.5	/ 44.9
Tea $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	21.6	/ 0.5	- 2.3	- 3.6	- 3.6	/ 22.7
*Cocoa $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	9.4	0	- 8.7	- 7.8	- 7.8	/ 3.3
FATS AND OILS:						
Lard 1b.	19.0	- 0.5	/ 11.8	/ 6.1	/ 9.8	/ 104.3
Shortening other than lard:						
In cartons 1b.	20.0	- 1.0	/ 2.6	/ 1.0	/ 2.6	/ 77.0
In other containers "	24.6	/ 1.2	- 3.9	- 4.7	/ 0.8	/ 34.4
Salad dressing pt.	25.2	0	0	- 0.8	0	/ 25.4
Oleomargarine 1b.	23.6	/ 0.4	/ 5.4	/ 5.4	/ 5.4	/ 51.3
Peanut butter "	33.1	/ 1.8	/ 27.3	/ 23.0	/ 19.1	/ 84.9
*Oil, cooking or salad pt.	30.4	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:						
Sugar 1b.	6.8	0	0	- 1.4	- 1.4	/ 33.3
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.6	0	/ 6.1	/ 5.4	/ 3.3	/ 14.7
*Molasses 18 oz.	15.5	- 0.6	/ 5.4	/ 6.9	/ 4.0	/ 15.7
*Apple butter 16 oz.	13.0	/ 0.8	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

(7)

Table 4 -- Indexes and Percent Changes from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City <u>2/</u>	Indexes 1935-39 = 100					Percent Changes			
	June 15	May 18	June 16	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	May 18	June 16	Sept. 15	Jan. 1
	1943	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943	1942	1942	1941
						to June 15 1943	to June 15 1943	to June 15 1943	to June 1 1943
United States	141.9	143.0	123.2	126.6	97.8	-0.8	+ 15.2	+ 12.1	+45.1
New England:									
Boston	136.8	138.1	119.9	124.4	95.2	- .9	+ 14.1	+ 10.0	+43.7
Bridgeport	143.8	144.7	124.0	127.1	96.5	- .6	+ 16.0	+ 13.1	+49.0
Fall River	140.8	140.5	122.6	125.7	97.5	+ .2	+ 14.8	+ 12.0	+44.4
Manchester	143.4	142.3	125.3	126.8	96.6	+ .8	+ 14.4	+ 13.1	+48.4
New Haven	143.1	145.7	122.3	126.2	95.7	-1.8	+ 17.0	+ 13.4	+49.5
Portland, Me.	140.6	140.3	122.9	125.8	95.3	+ .2	+ 14.1	+ 11.8	+47.5
Providence	139.7	141.0	122.8	126.3	96.3	- .9	+ 13.8	+ 10.6	+45.1
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	145.2	147.8	127.3	127.6	100.2	-1.8	+ 14.1	+ 13.8	+44.9
Newark	142.1	142.4	122.3	128.0	98.8	- .2	+ 16.2	+ 11.0	+43.8
New York	141.4	143.3	120.4	125.2	99.5	-1.3	+ 17.4	+ 12.9	+42.1
Philadelphia	139.2	141.6	119.7	123.9	95.0	-1.7	+ 16.3	+ 12.3	+46.5
Pittsburgh	142.3	142.4	124.7	125.9	98.0	- .1	+ 14.1	+ 13.0	+45.2
Rochester	138.6	139.6	126.2	125.2	99.9	- .7	+ 9.8	+ 10.7	+38.7
Scranton	144.4	148.3	123.0	125.6	97.5	-2.6	+ 17.4	+ 15.0	+48.1
East North Central:									
Chicago	140.0	141.1	122.1	124.9	98.2	- .8	+ 14.7	+ 12.1	+42.6
Cincinnati	139.2	138.3	124.3	126.9	96.5	+ .7	+ 12.0	+ 9.7	+44.2
Cleveland	149.5	146.3	127.4	127.3	99.2	+2.2	+ 17.3	+ 17.4	+50.7
Columbus, Ohio	134.5	136.3	120.3	119.6	93.4	-1.3	+ 11.8	+ 12.5	+44.0
Detroit	141.6	143.4	124.5	124.7	97.0	-1.3	+ 13.7	+ 13.6	+46.0
Indianapolis	140.3	140.2	125.7	127.1	98.2	+ .1	+ 11.6	+ 10.4	+42.9
Milwaukee	138.7	141.9	122.0	121.0	95.9	-2.3	+ 13.7	+ 14.6	+44.6
Peoria	146.9	148.7	129.6	130.7	99.0	-1.2	+ 13.3	+ 12.4	+48.4
Springfield, Ill.	146.4	148.5	128.4	130.2	96.2	-1.4	+ 14.0	+ 12.4	+52.2
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids <u>3/</u>	143.3	144.3	129.9	121.2	95.9	- .7	+ 10.3	+ 13.2	+49.4
Kansas City	136.0	137.9	119.0	120.7	92.4	-1.4	+ 14.3	+ 12.7	+47.2
Minneapolis	134.1	134.9	121.4	123.3	99.0	- .6	+ 10.5	+ 8.8	+35.5
Omaha	137.7	137.9	120.8	123.2	97.9	- .1	+ 14.0	+ 11.8	+40.7
St. Louis	143.3	144.7	125.9	126.7	99.2	-1.0	+ 13.8	+ 13.1	+44.5
St. Paul	133.7	134.8	119.2	120.8	98.6	- .8	+ 12.2	+ 10.7	+35.6
Wichita <u>3/</u>	149.7	150.7	130.1	132.0	97.2	- .7	+ 15.1	+ 13.4	+54.0

*

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

4/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

(8)

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities,^{1/} (Cont'd)Table 4 -- Indexes and Percent Changes from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

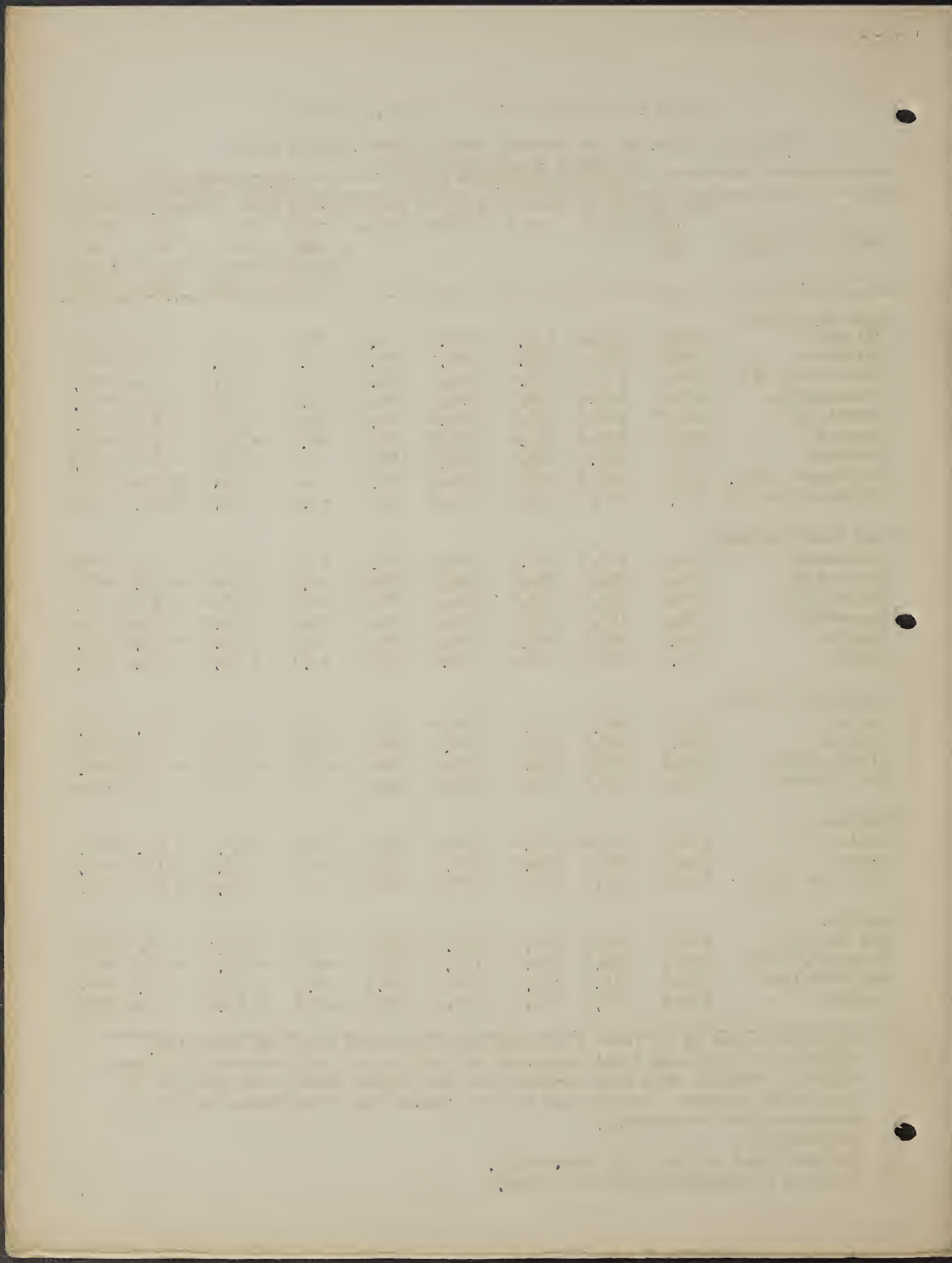
Region and City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100					Percent Changes			
	June 15	May 13	June 16	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	May 13	June 16	Sept. 15	Jan. 14
	1943	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943	1942	1942	1941
	<u>2/</u>					to	to	to	to
						June 15	June 15	June 15	June 15
						1943	1943	1943	1943
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	143.9	142.9	121.8	125.9	94.3	+0.7	+ 13.1	+ 11.5	+52.6
Baltimore	152.5	152.6	127.1	131.2	97.9	- .1	+ 20.0	+ 16.2	+55.2
Charleston, S.C.	139.0	140.3	122.9	126.6	95.9	- .9	+ 13.1	+ 9.2	+44.9
Jacksonville	151.7	151.5	129.3	134.2	98.8	+ .1	+ 17.3	+ 13.0	+53.5
Norfolk <u>4/</u>	151.7	153.3	128.5	131.9	95.8	-1.0	+ 13.1	+ 15.0	+58.4
Richmond	139.6	141.5	122.9	126.2	93.7	-1.3	+ 13.6	+ 10.6	+49.0
Savannah	153.8	153.8	129.4	133.3	100.5	0	+ 18.9	+ 15.4	+53.0
Washington, D.C.	142.7	142.5	123.2	128.1	97.7	+ .1	+ 15.3	+ 11.4	+46.1
Winston-Salem <u>3/</u>	137.7	140.0	120.1	119.8	93.7	- .2	+ 16.3	+ 13.6	+49.1
East South Central:									
Birmingham	141.9	140.7	120.9	125.3	96.0	+ .9	+ 17.4	+ 13.2	+47.8
Jackson <u>3/</u>	149.3	153.0	130.3	141.0	105.3	-2.4	+ 14.6	+ 5.9	+41.8
Knoxville <u>3/</u>	158.5	156.6	134.4	134.2	97.1	+1.2	+ 17.9	+ 13.1	+63.2
Louisville	139.5	141.5	123.2	124.2	95.5	-1.4	+ 13.2	+ 12.3	+46.1
Memphis	148.3	150.1	124.1	129.7	94.2	-1.2	+ 19.5	+ 14.3	+57.4
Mobile	149.8	149.9	128.4	133.9	97.9	- .1	+ 16.7	+ 11.9	+53.0
West South Central:									
Dallas	136.6	138.2	117.6	123.7	92.6	-1.2	+ 16.2	+ 10.4	+47.5
Houston	140.0	143.7	124.9	130.8	102.6	-2.6	+ 12.1	+ 7.0	+36.5
Little Rock	140.1	141.8	123.3	129.2	95.6	-1.2	+ 13.6	+ 8.4	+46.5
New Orleans	152.2	152.5	128.9	135.9	101.9	- .2	+ 13.1	+ 12.0	+49.4
Mountain:									
Butte	140.6	138.3	123.5	124.6	98.7	+1.7	+ 13.3	+ 12.3	+42.5
Denver	141.0	143.8	123.7	126.8	94.3	-1.9	+ 14.0	+ 11.2	+48.7
Salt Lake City	144.1	144.7	126.3	130.1	97.5	- .4	+ 13.6	+ 10.9	+47.8
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	146.3	146.2	129.3	137.9	101.3	+ .4	+ 13.1	+ 6.5	+44.2
Portland, Oreg.	152.1	153.6	134.6	141.2	101.7	-1.0	+ 13.0	+ 7.7	+49.6
San Francisco	149.8	148.0	126.1	133.5	99.6	+1.2	+ 12.3	+ 12.2	+50.4
Seattle	146.6	150.3	129.4	137.3	101.0	-2.5	+ 13.3	+ 6.3	+45.1

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

4/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.



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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington, D. C.
Prices and Cost of Living Branch

July 1943

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COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD

With meat prices cut back by the OPA and vegetables seasonally lower, the cost of living for city workers dropped 0.8 percent from mid-June to mid-July -- its first substantial decline since Pearl Harbor, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins reported today. "Retail food prices as a group -- representing about two-fifths of total living costs -- declined by 2.0 percent," she said. "Clothing costs rose 0.5 percent. Other costs, including housefurnishings, utility rates and services, were stable or increased moderately.

"Until this summer, the rise in living costs had been almost uninterrupted since Germany invaded Poland. The only previous monthly declines were during the three month period immediately after the outbreak of war, following a speculative rise in food costs, and a small decline of 0.2 percent from May to June of this year. The Bureau of Labor Statistics index of the cost of living on July 15 was at 123.8 percent of its 1935-39 average, about 5 percent above September 1942 and 23 percent above January 1941, base date of the Little Steel Formula.

"The substantial declines for most meats in July resulted from reductions in maximum prices ordered by the OPA. They included an $8\frac{1}{2}$ percent drop for beef and veal, 8 percent for pork, and 4 percent for lamb. Prices of chickens, which were not affected by the OPA cutback, were down fractionally -- 0.5 percent. There were continued reports of acute shortages of beef and poultry in many areas. Fresh fish prices rose 4 percent from mid-June to mid-July, but were subject to an OPA regulation on July 22, establishing maximum retail prices below the July 15 level. On the average, prices of meat, including fish, were down 5.5 percent.

"Victory garden produce and larger commercial supplies helped to accelerate the normal summer decline in vegetable prices which in almost all cases was greater than usual from June to July. Cabbage was down 35 percent, beets 27 percent, white potatoes 15 percent, lettuce 11 percent, sweetpotatoes 5 percent and onions 2 percent. Prices of spinach, on the other hand, rose 42 percent, with supplies extremely scarce in some cities. Despite the many summer reductions, fresh vegetable prices as a group were still about 40 percent above a year ago.

"Aside from spinach and fresh fish, the only important price increases among foods were seasonal advances of 5 percent for eggs, a greater than seasonal increase of 10 percent for oranges, and smaller advances for dried fruits and vegetables and some cereals.

"Clothing prices in July were on the average about 0.5 percent above June, mainly because of a fairly widespread substitution of higher priced lines of women's percale house dresses, men's business shirts, and chambray work shirts.

"Miscellaneous goods and services rose 0.2 percent, with medical expenses and beauty and barber shop and laundry services somewhat higher than in June. The higher costs for laundry services were the result of local adjustments in maximum charges by the OPA, in most cases because of higher labor costs."

NOTE: Effective with this report, the detailed tables on cost of living and retail costs of food will be combined in one report.

THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON
FROM 1630 TO 1890

BY JAMES H. BROWN

The history of the city of Boston from 1630 to 1890. The city was founded in 1630 by a group of Puritan settlers. It grew rapidly and became one of the most important cities in the New England. The city was the center of the American Revolution and the birthplace of many of the nation's leaders. The city has a rich history and a strong sense of community.

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Table 1.

Report for July 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
July 15	117.0	124.6	125.3	108.0	106.3	122.8	111.1
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: June 15	124.8	141.9	127.9	108.0	107.7	125.4	115.7
July 15	123.8	139.0	128.6	<u>1</u> /	107.7	125.4	115.9

Table 1a.

Percent of Change

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rents ² /	Fuel electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
June 15, 1943 to July 15, 1943	-0.8	-2.0	+0.5	<u>1</u> /	0	0	+0.2
Sept. 15, 1942 to July 15, 1943	+5.1	+9.8	+2.2	0	+1.4	+1.5	+4.0
July 15, 1942 to July 15, 1943	+5.8	+11.6	+2.6	0	+1.3	+2.1	+4.3
May 15, 1942 to July 15, 1943	+6.7	+14.3	+1.9	-1.7	+2.7	+2.6	+4.5
Jan. 15, 1941 to July 15, 1943	+22.8	+42.1	+27.7	+2.9	+6.8	+25.3	+13.7
Aug. 15, 1939 to July 15, 1943	+25.6	+48.7	+28.2	+3.5	+10.5	+24.7	+15.4

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

¹/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates, March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

²/ Changes through June 15, 1943

Table 2.

Report for July 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change Between June 15, 1943 and July 15, 1943 by Groups*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House furnishings	Miscellaneous
Average: Large Cities	-0.8 <u>1/</u>	-2.0 <u>2/</u>	+0.5 <u>3/</u>	0 <u>4/</u>	0 <u>3/</u>	+0.2 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	-1.3	-3.1	+0.6	0	0	+0.2
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	-1.3	-3.2	+0.2	0	0	0
New York	0	-0.2	+0.9	-0.1	0	0
Philadelphia	-1.0	-2.4	+0.8	0	0	0
Pittsburgh	-1.0	-2.6	+0.2	0	+0.6	+0.3
East North Central:						
Chicago	-1.0	-2.4	+0.5	0	0	0
Cincinnati	-0.6	-1.6	+0.8	0	+0.2	0
Cleveland	-1.2	+3.0	+0.6	0	0	0
Detroit	-0.6	-2.0	+0.3	0	0	+0.6
West North Central:						
Kansas City	-0.9 <u>5/</u>	-2.8 <u>5/</u>	+1.4	0	0	+0.2
Minneapolis	-0.7	-2.1	+0.2	0	0	+0.2
St. Louis	-0.5 <u>6/</u>	-1.3 <u>6/</u>	+0.3	0	0	+0.1
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	-1.7	-4.1	+0.9	0	0	0
Savannah	-0.1	-0.5	+1.4	+0.1	0	0
Washington, D. C.	-0.6	-1.8	+0.3	0	0	+0.1
East South Central:						
Birmingham	-0.2	-0.7	+0.2	0	0	+0.1
West South Central:						
Houston	-0.6	-1.9	+0.8	0	+0.2	+0.3
Mountain:						
Denver	-0.7	-1.8	+0.1	+0.7	0	+0.1
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	-1.0	-3.0	0	0	-0.1	+1.0
San Francisco	-1.0	-2.7	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3	+0.9
Seattle	-1.5	-3.9	+0.4	0	+0.3	+0.6

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/Rents surveyed at quarterly dates, March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

2/Based on prices for 56 cities collected on the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

3/Based on data for 21 cities.

4/Based on data for 34 cities.

5/ Indexes for June revised: all items 121.8; food 135.8

6/ Indexes for June revised: all items 123.7; food 143.5

Table 3.

Report for July 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and Other Specified Dates*

Region and City	July 15, 1942	Aug. 15, 1939	Jan. 1, 1941	May 15, 1942	Sept. 15, 1942
	to	to	to	to	to
	July 15, 1943	July 15, 1943	July 15, 1943	July 15, 1943	July 15, 1943
Average: Large Cities	+5.8	+25.6	+22.8	+6.7	+5.1
New England:					
Boston	+3.8	+23.8	+21.3	+6.0	+3.4
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+4.3	+28.0	+23.7	+4.6	+4.6
New York	+7.5	+25.1	+22.6	+9.3	+6.4
Philadelphia	+5.4	+25.4	+23.6	+6.9	+4.9
Pittsburgh	+6.0	+25.6	+22.1	+6.7	+5.2
East North Central:					
Chicago	+5.6	+24.5	+21.4	+5.5	+4.8
Cincinnati	+5.9	+27.0	+24.1	+6.6	+4.7
Cleveland	+7.1	+27.7	+25.2	+7.5	+6.8
Detroit	+6.3	+27.9	+24.8	+6.1	+6.4
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+6.1	+22.4	+22.7	+5.8	+5.2
Minneapolis	+4.2	+21.4	+18.9	+4.4	+3.6
St. Louis	+5.8	+25.5	+21.9	+6.5	+5.6
South Atlantic:					
Baltimore	+6.2	+27.6	+25.0	+6.5	+5.1
Savannah	+8.7	+33.1	+30.4	+9.3	+8.3
Washington, D. C.	+5.7	+24.7	+23.1	+7.2	+5.0
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+7.6	+28.0	+24.1	+6.2	+6.1
West South Central:					
Houston	+5.0	+21.6	+20.1	+5.4	+3.8
Mountain:					
Denver	+5.7	+24.3	+22.6	+6.1	+4.6
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+4.2	+24.4	+22.0	+5.8	+2.7
San Francisco	+7.7	+28.3	+25.1	+8.3	+5.4
Seattle	+5.4	+25.8	+23.6	+4.1	+2.9

* These percent changes are based on indexes of cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 4.

Report for July 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Average: Large Cities	123.81/	139.02/	128.63/	107.74/	125.43/	115.93/
New England:						
Boston	120.2	132.5	124.0	118.4	119.8	112.4
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	126.1	140.5	127.8	104.8	126.6	121.6
New York	123.8	141.1	129.1	110.6	119.0	115.0
Philadelphia	122.6	135.8	128.5	105.8	123.9	114.8
Pittsburgh	123.6	138.6	131.8	110.3	124.3	114.5
East North Central:						
Chicago	122.9	136.7	124.3	103.2	120.4	113.8
Cincinnati	123.6	137.0	133.7	103.8	128.8	116.8
Cleveland	127.7	145.0	131.6	113.5	125.1	115.3
Detroit	126.0	138.8	129.7	108.8	123.0	122.7
West North Central:						
Kansas City	120.7	132.0	127.1	107.9	120.3	116.9
Minneapolis	121.0	131.3	128.0	101.9	125.8	118.4
St. Louis	123.1	141.6	129.3	106.2	117.6	112.4
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	125.9	146.3	128.6	106.7	129.0	114.3
Savannah	132.2	153.0	132.4	113.2	121.5	122.6
Washington, D. C.	123.0	140.1	135.9	105.3	131.5	120.3
East South Central:						
Birmingham	126.1	140.9	129.5	102.4	121.8	116.0
West South Central:						
Houston	122.5	137.4	130.4	92.8	123.0	118.3
Mountain:						
Denver	122.6	138.4	124.3	100.4	121.9	116.2
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	125.0	142.4	129.6	94.2	119.2	118.4
San Francisco	127.4	145.7	127.3	92.1	118.7	124.3
Seattle	126.2	140.9	130.9	101.9	121.2	123.5

* These indexes are based on the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates, March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined, 1/

Table 5 -- Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity Group	1943		1942		1941	1939
	2/July 13	June 15	Sept. 15	July 14	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All Foods	139.0	141.9	126.6	124.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	107.6	107.5	105.4	105.1	94.9	93.4
Meats	130.7	138.3	130.6	127.5	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	120.2	131.4	126.0	123.6	109.4	99.6
Pork	115.3	125.4	124.0	122.1	86.1	88.0
Lamb	136.5	142.7	133.7	133.0	98.7	98.8
Chickens	146.4	147.2	133.7	125.7	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	208.3	201.1	168.2	161.2	118.7	99.6
Daily Products	133.9	3/133.7	127.7	122.8	105.1	93.1
Eggs	153.6	146.2	155.2	130.2	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	181.3	3/187.8	129.7	135.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	193.9	3/202.1	130.3	139.1	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.5	3/130.5	123.8	122.4	91.4	91.6
Dried	159.0	3/158.6	143.4	134.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.5	124.5	123.8	122.8	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	126.5	126.5	120.7	120.0	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	126.5	126.5	127.0	126.6	95.3	95.6

Table 5-A -- Percent Change

Commodity Group	June 15 1943 to July 13 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to July 13 1943	July 14 1942 to July 13 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to July 13 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to July 13 1943
All Foods	- 2.0	+ 9.8	+11.6	+ 42.1	+ 48.7
Cereals and bakery products	+ .1	+ 2.1	+ 2.4	+ 13.4	+ 15.2
Meats	- 5.5	+ .1	+ 2.5	+ 29.3	+ 36.6
Beef and veal	- 8.5	- 4.6	- 2.8	+ 9.9	+ 20.7
Pork	- 8.1	- 7.0	- 5.6	+ 33.9	+ 31.0
Lamb	- 4.3	+ 2.1	+ 2.6	+ 38.3	+ 38.2
Chickens	- .5	+ 9.5	+16.5	+ 50.6	+ 54.8
Fish, fresh and canned	+ 3.6	+23.8	+29.2	+ 75.5	+109.1
Daily Products	+ .1	+ 4.9	+ 9.0	+ 27.4	+ 43.8
Eggs	+ 5.1	- 1.0	+18.0	+ 57.7	+ 69.3
Fruits and vegetables	- 3.5	+39.8	+33.6	+ 94.3	+ 96.2
Fresh	- 4.1	+48.8	+39.4	+107.6	+108.9
Canned	0	+ 5.4	+ 6.6	+ 42.8	+ 42.5
Dried	+ .3	+10.9	+18.5	+ 59.6	+ 76.1
Beverages	0	+ .6	+ 1.4	+ 37.0	+ 31.2
Fats and oils	0	+ 4.8	+ 5.4	+ 57.5	+ 49.7
Sugar and sweets	0	- .4	- .1	+ 32.7	+ 32.3

- 1/ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.
- 2/ Preliminary.
- 3/ Revised.

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - June 15, 1943 to July 13, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
United States:	- 2.0	+ 0.1	- 5.5	+ 0.1	+ 5.1	- 3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
New England:									
Boston	- 3.1	+ .2	- 3.6	+ .2	+ 5.3	-10.5	- .1	+ .4	+ .2
Bridgeport	- 3.3	- .1	- 2.9	- .5	+ 4.5	-10.0	- 1.5	- .5	- .5
Fall River	- 3.7	0	- 3.3	- .6	+ 3.8	-11.7	- .9	0	+ .2
Manchester	- 4.7	+ .3	- 6.9	- 1.3	+ 4.9	-12.9	- .4	- .4	+ .1
New Haven	- 3.4	- .1	- 3.9	- 2.2	+ 5.1	- 7.9	- .1	- .5	- 2.6
Portland, Me.	- 3.2	+ .3	- 6.8	- .4	+ 4.2	+ 7.6	- .6	- .2	- 0.
Providence	- 2.8	0	- 4.4	0	+ 5.3	- 7.0	- .1	- .1	- .1
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	- 3.2	- .2	- 5.4	0	+ 5.0	- 7.5	0	0	0
Newark	- .6	0	- 2.7	- .1	+ 5.3	- .4	+ .9	- .7	- .1
New York	- .2	+ .1	- 2.5	+ 1.8	+ 5.0	- .4	- .5	- .3	- .2
Philadelphia	- 2.4	+ .1	- 4.2	- .1	+ 4.8	- 6.6	+ 1.3	+ .1	+ 1.5
Pittsburgh	- 2.6	+ .1	- 5.6	0	+ 6.1	- 5.3	- .2	0	- 1.8
Rochester	- 2.7	0	- 7.1	- .1	+ 8.0	- 6.3	- .7	- .1	- .3
Scranton	- 3.3	- .5	- 4.9	0	+ 6.3	- 8.9	- .2	0	+ .1
East North Central:									
Chicago	- 2.4	+ .2	- 7.7	+ .1	+ 4.7	- 1.8	+ .1	+ .2	+ .1
Cincinnati	- 1.6	+ .3	- 6.9	+ .1	+ 4.5	+ .2	+ .1	- .1	- .2
Cleveland	- 3.0	+ .9	- 7.0	- .3	+ 5.8	- 5.1	+ .2	+ .2	+ 1.1
Columbus, Ohio	- 2.8	+ .1	- 7.5	+ .1	+ 7.4	- 6.0	- .1	- .4	- .1
Detroit	- 2.0	- .2	- 6.7	- .2	+ 3.5	- 1.6	0	- .1	- 1.3
Indianapolis	- 2.4	+ .1	- 3.3	- .2	+ 5.3	- 1.6	- .2	0	+ .6
Milwaukee	- 1.8	+ .2	- 6.8	0	+ 3.9	- .3	0	- .3	0
Peoria	- 2.5	0	- 4.7	- .2	+ 7.2	- 4.6	+ .3	+ .1	+ .2
Springfield, Ill.	- 1.5	+ .1	- 3.1	+ .7	+ 8.0	- 3.9	0	+ .1	+ .6
East North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	- 2.6	- .1	- 5.5	+ .1	+ 5.7	- 4.9	- .4	- 1.3	- .6
Kansas City	- 2.8	+ .1	- 8.0	- .2	+ 4.3	- 4.6	- .4	+ 1.9	- .1
Minneapolis	- 2.1	+ .1	- 7.6	- .1	+ 1.6	- 1.3	- .2	- .4	- .1
Omaha	- 3.2	+ .1	- 7.5	- .1	+ 2.0	- 4.0	0	0	- 2.7
St. Louis	- 1.5	+ .2	- 6.7	- .2	+ 3.5	+ 1.5	+ .2	+ .3	- .2
St. Paul	- 1.9	+ .1	- 7.4	+ .3	+ 2.6	- 1.4	+ 1.3	0	+ .1
Wichita	- 2.0	0	- 4.6	- .2	+ 3.0	- 3.8	+ .1	+ .3	- 1.7

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods, (Cont'd)

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - June 15, 1943 to July 13, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	-1.7	- .5	- 7.9	- .1	+7.7	+ 3.5	0	0	0
Baltimore	-4.1	+ .1	- 4.6	- .9	+7.1	- 9.5	+1.2	- .4	+ .5
Charleston, S.C.	-1.9	+ .2	- 4.4	- .9	+ .9	- 2.3	0	0	- .6
Jacksonville	+ .5	- .1	- 7.3	- .1	+6.9	+ 8.0	+ .1	+ .7	+ .2
Norfolk	- .9	+ .4	- 3.4	+ .1	+9.6	- 1.6	+ .1	0	+ .5
Richmond	-1.9	+1.2	- 4.8	0	+7.6	- 5.3	- .3	- .5	+ .6
Savannah	- .5	+1.1	- 6.4	- .1	+7.5	+ 4.5	- .8	0	+ .2
Washington, D.C.	-1.8	+ .1	- 4.9	- .5	+5.9	- 2.0	+ .4	0	-1.2
Winston-Salem	-4.4	- .8	- 9.7	- .5	+5.7	- 5.4	-4.6	- .8	-3.6
East South Central:									
Birmingham	- .7	+ .3	- 3.3	- .4	+4.6	- .6	0	+ .1	0
Jackson	-1.0	- .8	- 1.6	- .3	+2.2	- 1.8	- .8	-1.2	+ .2
Knoxville	-1.1	+ .3	- 2.2	- .6	+4.8	- 2.9	+3.7	+ .5	- .6
Louisville	-3.3	+ .3	- 7.1	- .1	+5.6	- 7.5	0	- .1	- .7
Memphis	- .4	+ .2	- 5.6	+ .1	+4.0	+ 2.3	+1.7	+ .4	+ .6
Mobile	- .8	+ .2	- 5.5	- .7	+6.7	+ 3.4	- .5	- .4	-1.5
West South Central:									
Dallas	- .8	+1.0	- 8.0	0	+3.0	+ 4.2	+ .2	- .1	- .2
Houston	-1.9	+ .1	-10.2	+ .2	+4.5	+ 4.0	- .7	- .2	- .1
Little Rock	-3.5	+ .1	- 6.0	0	+3.6	- 7.7	0	+ .2	-1.1
New Orleans	+1.1	+ .4	- 5.8	- .3	+7.0	+ 9.8	- .1	+ .1	- .1
Mountain:									
Butte	-1.2	+ .1	- 3.9	0	+2.9	- 1.4	+ .2	+ .2	0
Denver	-1.8	+ .1	- 4.2	- .1	+4.6	- 3.0	-1.5	- .3	+ .5
Salt Lake City	-1.3	+ .5	- 2.1	+ .1	+7.5	- 5.5	- .7	+ .3	+ .2
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	-3.0	0	- 6.9	- .1	+4.9	- 5.6	0	+ .2	+1.7
Portland, Oreg.	-4.2	- .1	- 5.2	- .2	+5.3	-11.0	0	+ .2	0
San Francisco	-2.7	+ .1	- 7.7	0	+4.9	- 4.2	+ .1	+ .1	0
Seattle	-3.9	0	- 9.5	- .3	+3.7	- 8.2	+ .4	0	- .7

Table 7. Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change				
		June 15 1943 to July 13 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to July 13 1943	July 14 1942 to July 13 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to July 13 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to July 13 1943
Cents						
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:						
Cereals:						
Flour, wheat 10 pounds	61.4	+ .5	+13.1	+20.6	+48.3	+71.5
Macaroni pound	15.6	+ .6	+10.6	+10.6	+13.0	+11.4
*Wheat cereal 28 ounces	23.3	0	- 2.9	- 3.3	- .9	- 3.7
Corn flakes 8 ounces	6.6	+ 1.5	- 5.7	- 8.3	- 7.0	- 5.7
Corn meal pound	5.7	+ 1.8	-14.0	+18.8	+35.7	+42.5
*Rice do	12.6	0	+ .8	+ 3.3	+59.5	+68.0
Rollled oats do	8.6	0	- 1.1	- 1.1	+21.1	+21.1
*Flour, pancake 20 ounces	10.5	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:						
Bread, white pound	8.9	0	+ 2.3	+ 2.3	+14.1	+14.1
Bread, whole wheat do	9.7	0	+ 2.1	+ 2.1	+11.5	+10.2
Bread, rye do	10.0	0	+ 3.1	+ 3.1	+11.1	+ 8.7
Vanilla cookies do	28.5	- 2.7	+ 5.6	+ 2.2	+13.5	<u>2/</u>
Soda crackers do	18.0	+ 1.7	+ 8.4	+ 9.1	+20.0	+21.6
MEATS:						
Beef:						
Round steak pound	42.3	-10.0	- 4.3	- 3.0	+ 9.6	+16.2
Rib roast do	34.1	- 9.3	- 1.7	+ .6	+ 8.3	+18.0
Chuck roast do	29.1	- 8.2	- 3.0	- .3	+15.5	+29.3
*Stew meat do	31.2	- 9.8	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver do	36.8	- 2.1	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Hamburger do	28.7	-10.6	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:						
Cutlets do	46.3	- 8.7	-15.7	-14.4	+ 2.4	+ 8.9
*Roast, boned & rolled do	35.5	- 6.3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:						
Chops do	38.3	- 8.6	-11.1	- 9.7	+31.6	+23.9
Bacon, sliced do	42.7	- 6.6	+ 4.4	+ 8.9	+41.9	+40.5
Ham, sliced do	53.2	- 9.5	-10.7	- 9.8	+18.0	+14.7
Ham, whole do	36.3	- 8.8	- 5.2	- 3.7	+38.5	+32.5
Salt pork do	23.1	- 6.5	- 2.9	- 3.3	+38.3	+50.0
*Liver do	22.6	- 4.2	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage do	38.5	+ 1.6	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologna, big do	34.6	+ 1.8	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:						
Leg do	40.5	- 3.1	+ 6.9	+ 8.3	+45.7	+46.7
Rib chops do	46.5	- 5.7	- 1.3	- 1.7	+32.9	+26.7

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Table 7. Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Average Prices Cents	Percent Change				
		June 15 1942 to July 13 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to July 13 1943	July 14 1942 to July 13 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to July 13 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to July 13 1943
MEATS: (Continued)						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens 2/pound	44.5	- .5	+ 9.5	+16.5	+50.6	+ 54.8
Fish:						
Fish(fresh,frozen)2/pound	1/	+ 4.2	+26.8	+33.8	+80.8	+113.4
Salmon, pink-16 oz. can	23.9	- .8	+ 9.6	+10.1	+52.2	+ 86.7
*Salmon, red do	41.0	0	+ 1.0	+ 2.2	+55.3	+ 77.5
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter pound	51.1	+ 1.2	+ 1.0	+14.3	+34.5	+ 66.4
Cheese do	38.1	- 1.0	+11.1	+12.4	+41.1	+ 54.3
Milk,fresh(delivered) quart	15.5	0	+ 3.3	+ 3.3	+19.2	+ 29.2
Milk,fresh(grocery) do	14.4	0	+ 6.7	+ 6.7	+21.0	+ 30.9
Milk,fresh(average) do	15.1	0	+ 4.1	+ 4.1	+18.9	+ 29.1
Milk,evaporated 14 1/2 oz. can	10.1	0	+13.5	+16.1	+42.3	+ 50.7
EGGS:						
Eggs , fresh 2/dozen	54.2	+ 5.1	- 1.0	+18.0	+57.7	+ 69.3
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits and vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples pound	13.6	- 8.7	+19.4	+60.0	+161.5	+209.1
Bananas do	11.7	0	+13.6	+12.5	+77.3	+ 91.8
Oranges dozen	47.9	+ 9.6	+22.5	+30.9	+75.7	+ 52.1
*Grapefruit each	10.0	+13.6	+ 6.4	+31.6	3/	3/
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green pound	16.1	+ 1.9	+38.8	+54.8	+15.0	+123.6
Cabbage do	6.5	-35.0	+66.7	+41.3	+91.2	+ 66.7
Carrots bunch	8.3	0	+20.3	+18.6	+38.3	+ 80.4
Lettuce head	13.5	-11.2	+ 8.0	+ 8.0	+60.7	+ 60.7
Onions pound	8.8	- 2.2	+95.6	+79.6	+144.4	+144.4
Potatoes 15 pounds	71.5	-15.2	+48.0	+21.4	+144.9	+107.8
Spinach pound	14.5	+42.2	+35.5	+54.3	+98.6	+ 85.9
Sweetpotatoes do	17.2	- 5.0	+68.8	+35.6	+244.0	+212.7
*Beets bunch	8.5	-27.4	4/	4/	4/	4/
Canned fruits and vegetables						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches No.2 1/2 can	26.9	+ 1.5	+12.1	+14.5	+63.0	+ 57.3
Pineapple do	28.0	-1.1	- 1.1	+ 2.6	+34.0	+ 33.3
Grapefruit juice No.2 can	4.3	+ 1.4	+15.3	+31.2	3/	3/

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

Table 7. Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Percent Change					
	Average Prices	June 15	Sept. 15	July 14	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
		1943 to July 13 1943	1942 to July 13 1943	1942 to July 13 1943	1941 to July 13 1943	1939 to July 13 1943
	Cents					
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:(Cont'd)						
Canned vegetables:						
Beans, green No. 2 can	14.6	- 1.4	+ 6.6	+ 5.8	+46.0	+46.0
Corn do	14.0	0	+ 5.3	+ 9.4	+30.8	+34.6
Peas do	14.9	+ 1.3	+ 2.1	- 3.9	+12.9	+ 9.6
Tomatoes do	12.6	0	+ 8.6	+ 5.9	+50.0	+46.5
*Soup,vegetable 11 oz. can	13.1	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits and vegetables:						
Dried fruits:						
Prunes pound	16.7	+ 1.2	+12.8	+31.5	+74.0	+89.8
Dried vegetables:						
Navy beans pound	10.0	0	+ 9.9	+12.4	+53.8	+72.4
*Soup, dehydrated chicken noodle ounce	3.7	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:						
Coffee pound	30.0	0	+ 4.5	+ 4.9	+44.9	+34.5
Tea $\frac{1}{4}$ pound	21.9	+ 1.4	- 2.2	- 2.2	+24.4	+27.3
*Cocoa $\frac{1}{2}$ pound	9.1	+ 1.1	-10.8	-10.8	0	+5.8
FATS AND OILS:						
Lard pound	19.0	0	+ 9.8	+11.8	+104.3	+91.9
Shortening other than lard:						
In cartons pound	19.9	- .5	+ 2.1	+ 1.5	+76.1	+70.1
In other containers do	24.8	+ .8	+ 1.6	- 2.0	+35.5	+22.8
Salad dressing pint	25.2	0	0	0	+25.4	<u>2/</u>
Oleomargarine pound	23.7	+ .4	+ 5.8	+ 6.3	+51.9	+43.6
Peanut butter do	33.1	0	+19.1	+27.3	+84.9	+84.9
*Oil, cooking or salad pint	30.4	+ .3	--	--	--	--
SUGAR AND SWEETS:						
Sugar pound	6.8	0	- 1.4	0	+33.3	+30.8
Corn sirup 24 ounces	15.7	+ .6	+ 4.0	+ 6.1	+15.4	+14.6
*Molasses 18 ounces	15.7	+ .6	+ 5.4	+ 7.5	+17.2	+15.4
*Apple butter 16 ounces	13.0	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	July 13	June 15	Sept. 15	July 14	Jan. 14	June 15	Sept. 15	July 14	Jan. 14
	1943	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943	1942	1942	1941
	2/					to July 13 1943	to July 13 1943	to July 13 1943	to July 13 1943
United States	139.0	141.9	126.6	124.6	97.8	- 2.0	+ 9.8	+11.6	+42.1
New England									
Boston	132.5	136.8	124.4	122.6	95.2	- 3.1	+ 6.5	+ 8.1	+39.2
Bridgeport	139.1	143.8	127.1	124.9	96.5	- 3.3	+ 9.4	+11.4	+44.1
Fall River	135.6	140.8	125.7	124.8	97.5	- 3.7	+ 7.9	+ 8.7	+39.1
Manchester	136.6	143.4	126.8	126.0	96.6	- 4.7	+ 7.7	+ 8.4	+41.4
New Haven	138.2	143.1	126.2	124.2	95.7	- 3.4	+ 9.5	+11.3	+44.4
Portland, Maine	136.1	140.6	125.8	124.4	95.3	- 3.2	+ 8.2	+ 9.4	+42.8
Providence	135.8	139.7	126.3	125.4	96.3	- 2.8	+ 7.5	+ 8.3	+41.0
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	140.5	145.2	127.6	127.8	100.2	- 3.2	+10.1	+ 9.9	+40.2
Newark	141.2	142.1	128.0	125.1	98.8	- .6	+10.3	+12.9	+42.9
New York	141.1	141.4	125.2	122.8	99.5	- .2	+12.7	+14.9	+41.8
Philadelphia	135.8	139.2	123.9	122.9	95.0	- 2.4	+ 9.6	+10.5	+42.9
Pittsburgh	138.6	142.3	125.9	124.1	98.0	- 2.6	+10.1	+11.7	+41.4
Rochester	134.8	138.6	125.2	125.5	99.9	- 2.7	+ 7.7	+ 7.4	+34.9
Scranton	139.6	144.4	125.6	125.3	97.5	- 3.3	+11.1	+11.4	+43.2
East North Central:									
Chicago	136.7	140.0	124.9	122.8	98.2	- 2.4	+ 9.4	+11.3	+39.2
Cincinnati	137.0	139.2	126.9	124.2	96.5	- 1.6	+ 8.0	+10.3	+42.0
Cleveland	145.0	149.5	127.3	126.7	99.2	- 3.0	+13.9	+14.4	+46.2
Columbus, Ohio	130.8	134.5	119.6	118.4	103.4	- 2.8	+ 9.4	+10.5	+40.0
Detroit	138.8	141.6	124.7	125.0	97.0	- 2.0	+11.3	+11.0	+43.1
Indianapolis	137.0	140.3	127.1	125.5	98.2	- 2.4	+ 7.8	+ 9.2	+39.5
Milwaukee	136.2	138.7	121.0	122.0	95.9	- 1.8	+12.6	+11.6	+42.0
Peoria	143.2	146.9	130.7	130.0	99.0	- 2.5	+ 9.6	+10.2	+44.6
Springfield, Ill.	144.2	146.4	130.2	129.0	96.2	- 1.5	+10.8	+11.8	+49.9
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids 4/	139.6	143.3	121.2	126.4	95.9	- 2.6	+15.2	+10.4	+45.6
Kansas City	132.0	135.8	120.7	118.3	92.4	- 2.8	+ 9.4	+11.6	+42.9
Minneapolis	131.3	134.1	123.3	122.1	99.0	- 2.1	+ 6.5	+ 7.5	+32.6
Omaha	133.3	137.7	123.2	119.8	97.9	- 3.2	+ 8.2	+11.3	+36.2
St. Louis	141.6	143.5	126.7	126.0	99.2	- 1.3	+11.8	+12.4	+42.7
St. Paul	131.2	133.7	120.8	118.9	98.6	- 1.9	+ 8.6	+10.3	+33.1
Wichita 4/	146.7	149.7	132.0	129.2	97.2	- 2.0	+11.1	+13.5	+50.9

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary:

3/ Revised.

4/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

5/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes 1935 - 39 = 100					Percent Change				
	July 13	June 15	Sept. 15	July 14	Jan. 14	June 15	Sept. 15	July 14	Jan. 14	
	1943 2/	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943 to July 13 1943	1942 to July 13 1943	1942 to July 13 1943	1941 to July 13 1943	
South Atlantic:										
Atlanta	141.5	143.9	125.9	122.7	94.3	- 1.7	+12.4	+15.3	+50.1	
Baltimore	146.3	152.5	131.2	128.3	97.9	- 4.1	+11.5	+14.0	+49.4	
Charleston, S.C.	136.4	139.0	126.6	125.0	95.9	- 1.9	+ 7.7	+ 9.1	+42.2	
Jacksonville	152.5	151.7	134.2	133.1	98.8	+ .5	+13.6	+14.6	+54.4	
Norfolk 5/	150.4	151.7	131.9	129.8	95.8	- .9	+14.0	+15.9	+57.0	
Richmond	136.9	139.6	126.2	123.6	93.7	- 1.9	+ 8.5	+10.8	+46.1	
Savannah	153.0	153.8	133.3	132.0	100.5	- .5	+14.8	+15.9	+52.2	
Washington, D.C.	140.1	142.7	128.1	125.3	97.7	- 1.8	+ 9.4	+11.8	+43.4	
Winston-Salem 4/	133.6	139.7	119.8	119.2	93.7	- 4.4	+11.5	+12.1	+42.6	
East South Central:										
Birmingham	140.9	141.9	125.3	121.2	96.0	- .7	+12.5	+16.3	+46.8	
Jackson 4/	148.1	149.6	141.0	131.0	105.3	- 1.0	+ 5.0	+13.1	+40.6	
Knoxville 4/	156.7	158.5	134.2	130.3	97.1	- 1.1	+16.8	+20.3	+61.4	
Louisville	134.9	139.5	124.2	122.4	95.5	- 3.3	+ 8.6	+10.2	+41.3	
Memphis	147.7	148.3	129.7	125.5	94.2	- .4	+13.9	+17.7	+56.8	
Mobile	148.6	149.8	133.9	130.0	97.9	- .8	+11.0	+14.3	+51.8	
West South Central:										
Dallas	135.5	136.6	123.7	120.9	92.6	- .8	+ 9.5	+12.1	+46.3	
Houston	137.4	140.0	130.8	128.2	102.6	- 1.9	+ 5.0	+ 7.2	+33.9	
Little Rock	135.2	140.1	129.2	124.7	95.6	- 3.5	+ 4.6	+ 8.4	+41.4	
New Orleans	153.8	152.2	135.9	133.2	101.9	+ 1.1	+13.2	+15.5	+50.9	
Mountain:										
Butte	138.9	140.6	124.6	122.7	98.7	- 1.2	+11.5	+13.2	+40.7	
Denver	138.4	141.0	126.8	124.4	94.8	- 1.8	+ 9.1	+11.3	+46.0	
Salt Lake City	142.2	144.1	130.1	129.2	97.5	- 1.3	+ 9.3	+10.1	+45.8	
Pacific:										
Los Angeles	142.4	146.8	137.9	133.6	101.8	- 3.0	+ 3.3	+ 6.6	+39.9	
Portland, Oreg.	145.7	152.1	141.2	135.2	101.7	+ 4.2	+ 3.2	+ 7.8	+43.3	
San Francisco	145.7	149.8	133.5	126.6	99.6	- 2.7	+ 9.1	+14.1	+46.3	
Seattle	140.9	146.6	137.3	130.9	101.0	- 3.9	+ 2.6	+ 7.6	+39.5	

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

4/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100

5/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

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September 14, 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington, D. C.
Prices and Cost of Living Branch

THE LIBRARY OF THE

COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD

APR 29 1950

August 1943

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Fresh vegetable prices continued seasonally lower from mid-July to mid-August and resulted in the third consecutive monthly decline in the cost of living for city workers -- a drop of one-half of one percent," Secretary of Labor Perkins reported today. "Food prices as a group were down 1.3 percent and more than balanced smaller increases during the month for other goods and services," she said.

"Since the decline in food prices began in May the average family food bill for staples has come down by 4.1 percent and the entire cost of living by 1.5 percent. The index computed by the BLS now stands at 123.2 percent of its 1935-39 average.

"Food prices are high, notwithstanding these summer declines. They averaged about 9 percent above last year and nearly 47 percent above the low levels prevailing just before the outbreak of war in Europe in August 1939. This August the sharp price declines for fresh fruits and vegetables averaged 7 percent, but they were considerably greater in some cities than in others. Cabbage was down nearly 25 percent during the month, sweet potatoes and apples 17 percent, green beans 15 percent, onions and white potatoes 10 percent, spinach 8 percent, and there were smaller reductions for carrots and lettuce.

"However, vegetables remained at comparatively high levels, about 33 percent above last August and more than 90 percent above August 1939. Thus, sweet potatoes cost 14 cents a pound, compared with 5½ cents a pound just before the war. Green beans and spinach this August sold for 14 and 13 cents respectively, against pre-war prices of 7 and 8 cents.

"Aside from fresh produce, the most important declines in August were for fresh fish, which have been rising steadily to more than double pre-war levels. Under a new OPA ceiling regulation, there was a decline during the month of 3.5 percent. There were also declines for meats, amounting to 0.8 percent for beef and veal, 0.9 percent for pork and 1.1 percent for lamb, representing continued adjustments to an OPA 'outback' which reduced prices in the previous month. The only other important price movements in the food group were a seasonal increase of 9 percent for eggs, an advance of 4.6 percent for tea, and a decline of about 2 percent for canned peas.

"Differences from city to city in food price changes were unusually great from July to August. In northern areas price reductions were especially large, amounting on the average to 2.3 percent in New York, 2.9 percent in Detroit and 2.8 percent in Bridgeport and Denver. In many southern cities, because of the earlier growing season, prices had already begun to increase seasonally.

"Living costs other than food were on the whole moderately higher from July to August. Clothing prices rose 0.2 percent, the disappearance of lower price lines more than balancing clearance sales for certain summer goods. Housefurnishings and fuels and utility rates were up 0.1 percent. Miscellaneous goods and services rose 0.3 percent, because of higher charges by hospitals, motion picture houses, and beauty and barber shops. Rent costs are collected quarterly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and have shown very little change for some time."

(LS 44-891)

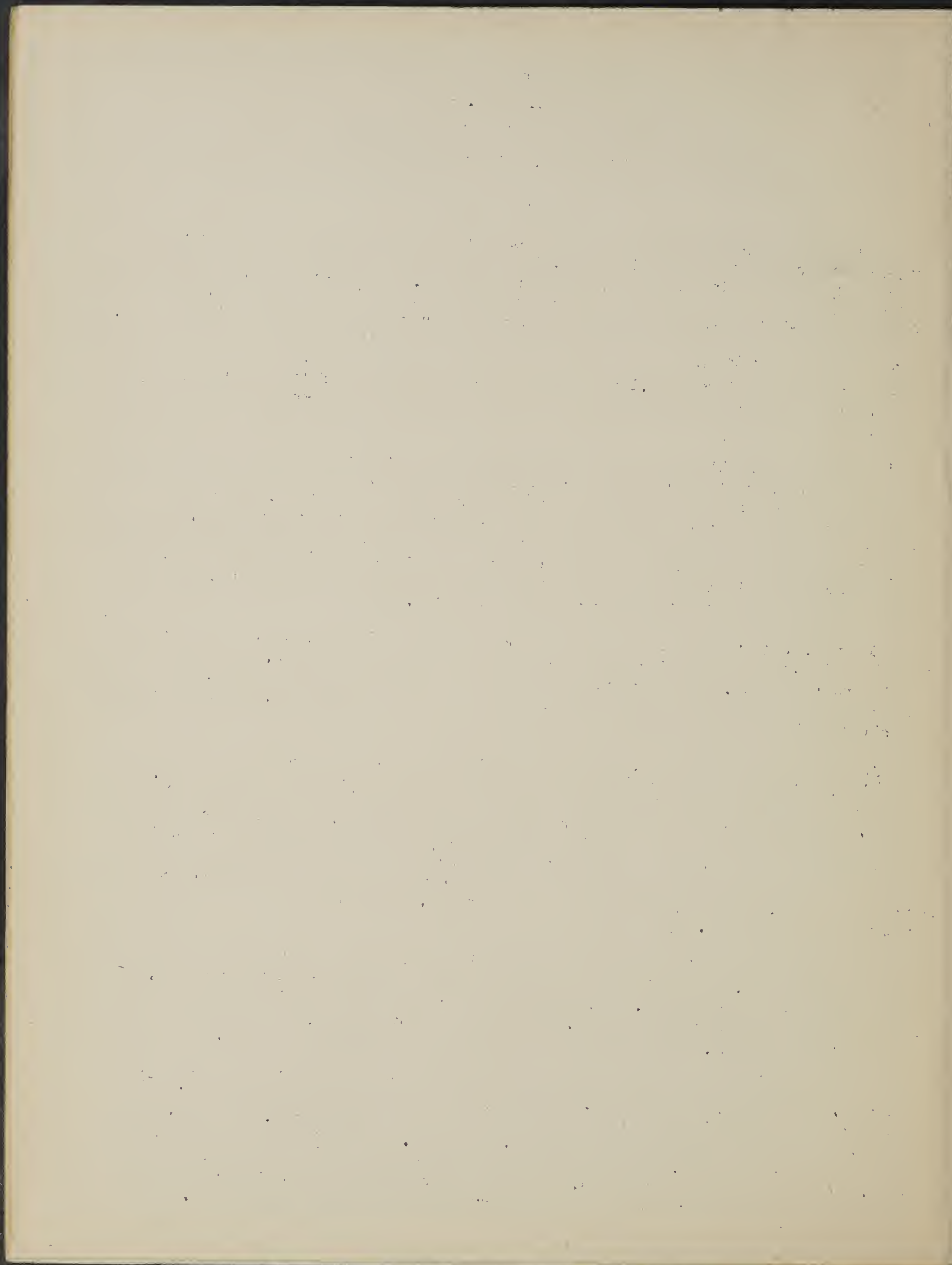


Table 1.

Report for August 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
August 15	117.5	126.1	125.2	108.0	106.2	123.0	111.1
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: July 15	123.8	139.0	128.6	<u>1/</u>	107.7	125.4	115.9
August 15	123.2	137.2	128.9	<u>1/</u>	107.8	125.5	116.2

Table 1a

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent ^{2/}	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
July 15, 1943 to August 15, 1943	-0.5	-1.3	+0.2	<u>1/</u>	+0.1	+0.1	+0.3
Sept. 15, 1942 to August 15, 1943	+4.6	+8.4	+2.5	0	+1.5	+1.5	+4.3
Aug. 15, 1942 to August 15, 1943	+4.9	+8.3	+3.0	0	+1.5	+2.0	+4.6
May 15, 1942 to August 15, 1943	+6.2	+12.8	+2.1	-1.7	+2.8	+2.7	+4.8
Jan. 15, 1941 to August 15, 1943	+22.2	+40.3	+26.0	+2.9	+6.9	+25.4	+14.0
Aug. 15, 1939 to August 15, 1943	+24.9	+46.7	+28.5	+3.5	+10.6	+24.8	+15.7

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

^{1/} Rents surveyed at quarterly dates, March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

^{2/} Changes through June 15, 1943.

Table 2.

Report for August 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Between July 15, 1943 and August 15, 1943 by Groups*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel electricity and ice	House furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
Average: Large Cities	-0.51/ <u>1</u>	-1.32/ <u>2</u>	+0.23/ <u>3</u>	+0.14/ <u>4</u>	+0.13/ <u>5</u>	+0.33/ <u>6</u>
New England:						
Boston	-0.2	-1.1	+0.3	0	-0.1	+0.8
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	-0.6	-1.7	+0.5	0	0	0
New York	-0.8 <u>5</u> /	-2.3 <u>5</u> /	+0.4	+0.1	+0.1	+0.8
Philadelphia	-0.1	-0.4	+0.6	0	-0.1	0
Pittsburgh	-0.2 <u>6</u> /	-0.8 <u>6</u> /	+0.2	0	+0.3	+0.9
East North Central:						
Chicago	-0.2 <u>7</u> /	-0.5 <u>7</u> /	0	0	0	+0.1
Cincinnati	-0.1 <u>8</u> /	-0.2 <u>8</u> /	-0.1	0	+0.8	0
Cleveland	+0.1	+0.1	0	0	0	0
Detroit	-1.1	-2.9	+0.2	0	+0.2	0
West North Central:						
Kansas City	0	-0.2	+0.5	0	+0.1	0
Minneapolis	-0.2	-0.7	0	+0.6	0	+0.2
St. Louis	-0.4	-1.0	0	0	0	0
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	-0.4	-0.8	-0.3	0	0	0
Savannah	-0.2	-0.4	-0.1	-0.2	0	0
Washington, D. C.	-0.2	-1.1	+0.3	+1.1	0	+0.3
East South Central:						
Birmingham	+0.2	+0.3	+0.4	0	0	+0.4
West South Central:						
Houston	-0.3	-0.9	+0.2	0	+0.2	0
Mountain:						
Denver	-1.3	-2.8	0	+0.5	0	0
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	-0.4	-0.9	0	0	0	0
San Francisco	-0.8 <u>9</u> /	-1.9 <u>9</u> /	0	0	0	0
Seattle	-0.3	-0.8	0	+0.5	0	0

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates, March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

5/ Indexes for July revised-all items: 123.6; food; 140.5

6/ Indexes for July revised-all items: 123.8; food; 138.9

7/ Indexes for July revised-all items: 123.0; food; 137.1

8/ Indexes for July revised-all items: 123.9; food; 137.9

9/ Indexes for July revised-all items: 125.3; food; 140.0

Table 3.

Report for August 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and Other Specified Dates*

Region and City	Aug. 15, 1942 to Aug. 15, 1943	Aug. 15, 1939 to Aug. 15, 1943	Jan. 1, 1941 to Aug. 15, 1943	May 15, 1942 to Aug. 15, 1943	Sept. 15, 1942 to Aug. 15, 1943
Average: Large Cities	+4.9	+24.9	+22.2	+6.2	+4.6
New England:					
Boston	+4.0	+23.5	+21.0	+5.7	+3.2
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+4.0	+27.2	+23.0	+4.0	+4.0
New York	+5.5	+23.8	+21.4	+8.2	+5.4
Philadelphia	+5.0	+25.3	+23.5	+6.8	+4.8
Pittsburgh	+5.9	+25.6	+22.1	+6.7	+5.2
East North Central:					
Chicago	+4.5	+24.3	+21.2	+5.3	+4.6
Cincinnati	+5.5	+27.2	+24.3	+6.8	+4.9
Cleveland	+7.5	+27.8	+25.3	+7.6	+6.9
Detroit	+5.6	+26.5	+23.4	+4.9	+5.2
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+5.0	+22.4	+22.7	+5.8	+5.2
Minneapolis	+3.8	+21.2	+18.7	+4.2	+3.4
St. Louis	+4.4	+25.0	+21.4	+6.1	+5.1
South Atlantic:					
Baltimore	+5.3	+27.1	+24.5	+6.1	+4.7
Savannah	+8.5	+32.8	+30.1	+9.1	+8.0
Washington, D. C.	+5.0	+24.4	+22.8	+7.0	+4.8
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+6.4	+28.3	+24.3	+6.5	+6.4
West South Central:					
Houston	+3.8	+21.3	+19.7	+5.1	+3.5
Mountain:					
Denver	+4.0	+22.7	+21.0	+4.7	+3.2
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+2.7	+23.9	+21.5	+5.4	+2.3
San Francisco	+3.9	+25.2	+22.1	+5.7	+2.8
Seattle	+3.4	+25.4	+23.2	+3.8	+2.5

* These percent changes are based on indexes of cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 4.

Report for August 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes 1935-39 = 100*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel electricity and ice	House- furnish- ings	Mis- cella- neous
Average: Large Cities	123.21 ^{1/}	137.22 ^{2/}	128.93 ^{3/}	107.84 ^{4/}	125.53 ^{3/}	116.23 ^{3/}
New England:						
Boston	119.9	131.1	124.4	118.4 ^{1/}	119.7	113.3
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	125.3	138.1	123.5	104.8	126.6	121.6
New York	122.6	137.2	129.6	110.7	119.1	115.9
Philadelphia	122.5	135.3	129.3	105.8	123.8	114.8
Pittsburgh	123.6	137.8	132.0	110.3	124.7	115.5
East North Central:						
Chicago	122.7	136.4	124.3	103.2	120.4	113.9
Cincinnati	123.8	137.6	133.6	103.8	129.8	116.8
Cleveland	127.8	145.2	131.6	113.5	125.1	115.3
Detroit	124.6	134.8	129.9	108.8	123.3	122.7
West North Central:						
Kansas City	120.7	131.7	127.7	107.9	120.4	116.9
Minneapolis	120.8	130.4	128.0	102.5	125.8	118.6
St. Louis	122.6	140.2	129.3	106.2	117.6	112.4
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	125.4	145.2	128.2	106.7	129.0	114.3
Savannah	131.9	152.4	132.3	113.0	121.5	122.6
Washington, D. C.	122.7	138.5	136.3	106.5	131.5	120.7
East South Central:						
Birmingham	126.4	141.3	130.0	102.4	121.8	116.5
West South Central:						
Houston	122.1	136.2	130.7	92.8	123.2	118.3
Mountain:						
Denver	121.0	134.5	124.3	100.9	121.9	116.2
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	124.5	141.1	129.6	94.2	119.2	118.4
San Francisco	124.3	137.3	127.3	92.1	118.7	124.3
Seattle	125.8	139.8	130.9	102.4	121.2	123.5

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

^{1/} Rents surveyed at quarterly dates, March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

^{2/} Based on prices for 56 cities collected on the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

^{3/} Based on data for 21 cities.

^{4/} Based on data for 34 cities.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined, 1/

Table 5 -- Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity Group	1943		1942		1941	1939
	2/Aug. 17	July 13	Sept. 15	Aug. 18	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All Foods	137.2	139.0	126.6	126.1	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	108.1	3/107.8	105.4	105.3	94.9	93.4
Meats	129.7	3/130.9	130.6	129.5	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	119.2	120.2	126.0	125.3	109.4	99.6
Pork	114.3	115.3	124.0	123.3	86.1	88.0
Lamb	135.0	136.5	133.7	133.0	98.7	98.8
Chickens	147.2	3/147.1	133.7	131.8	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	202.2	208.3	168.2	164.7	118.7	99.6
Dairy Products	133.4	3/133.4	127.7	125.8	105.1	93.1
Eggs	167.4	153.6	155.2	145.7	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	169.9	3/180.5	129.7	133.1	93.3	92.4
Fresh	179.4	3/192.9	130.3	135.2	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.2	130.5	123.8	122.8	91.4	91.6
Dried	159.9	159.0	143.4	138.8	99.6	90.3
Beverages	125.3	124.5	123.8	123.5	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	126.5	126.5	120.7	120.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	126.6	3/126.4	127.0	126.7	95.3	95.6

Table 5-A -- Percent Change

Commodity Group	July 13	Sept. 15	Aug. 18	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1943	1942	1942	1941	1939
	to	to	to	to	to
	Aug. 17	Aug. 17	Aug. 17	Aug. 17	Aug. 17
	1943	1943	1943	1943	1943
All Foods	-1.3	+ 8.4	+ 8.8	+40.3	+ 46.7
Cereals and bakery products	+ .3	+ 2.6	+ 2.7	+13.9	+ 15.7
Meats	- .9	- .7	+ .2	+28.3	+ 35.5
Beef and veal	- .8	- 5.4	- 4.9	+ 9.0	+19.7
Pork	- .9	- 7.8	- 7.3	+32.8	+29.9
Lamb	-1.1	+ 1.0	+ 1.5	+36.8	+ 36.6
Chickens	+ .1	+10.1	+11.7	+51.4	+ 55.6
Fish, fresh and canned	-2.9	+20.2	+22.8	+70.3	+103.0
Dairy Products	0	+ 4.5	+ 6.0	+26.9	+ 43.3
Eggs	+9.0	+ 7.9	+14.9	+71.9	+ 84.6
Fruits and vegetables	-5.9	+31.0	+27.6	+82.1	+ 83.9
Fresh	-7.0	+37.7	+32.7	+92.1	+ 93.3
Canned	- .2	+ 5.2	+ 6.0	+42.5	+ 42.1
Dried	+ .6	+11.5	+15.2	+60.5	+ 77.1
Beverages	+ .6	+ 1.2	+ 1.5	+37.8	+ 32.0
Fats and oils	0	+ 4.8	+ 5.1	+57.5	+ 49.7
Sugar and sweets	+ .2	- .3	- .1	+32.8	+ 32.4

- 1/ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.
- 2/ Preliminary.
- 3/ Revised.

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - July 13, 1943 to August 17, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
United States	- 1.3	+ 0.3	- 0.9	0	+ 9.0	- 5.9	+ 0.6	0	+ 0.2
New England:									
Boston	- 1.1	+ .3	- 2.0	+ .3	+ 9.9	- 5.6	+ 1.0	- 1.7	+ .5
Bridgeport	- 2.8	+ .3	- 2.5	- .1	+ 5.4	- 10.7	+ 2.6	+ .1	+ .1
Fall River	- 1.2	+ .1	- .9	- .1	+ 8.8	- 7.2	+ .3	+ .6	+ .5
Manchester	- 2.1	- .1	- .9	- .1	+ 6.8	- 11.5	+ .1	+ .4	+ .7
New Haven	- 1.1	+ .3	- 1.9	0	+ 8.6	- 4.6	+ .7	0	+ .6
Portland, Me.	- 1.8	- .3	- 2.3	0	+ 9.9	- 9.1	+ .6	+ .8	- .9
Providence	- .6	+ .1	- 1.2	0	+ 6.8	- 12.4	- 1.6	+ .3	- .5
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	- 1.7	+ .2	- 1.3	- .1	+ 11.0	- 8.5	+ .8	0	+ 2.1
Newark	- 1.6	+ .3	0	- .2	+ 7.3	- 7.7	+ .4	- .4	+ .4
New York	- 2.3	+ .5	- 2.1	- .4	+ 7.8	- 8.4	+ 1.1	- .3	0
Philadelphia	- .4	+ .5	- .4	- .2	+ 7.7	- 3.8	+ 1.9	- .3	- .3
Pittsburgh	- .8	- .3	- .3	+ .2	+ 8.1	- 4.7	- .1	+ .3	- .2
Rochester	- 1.3	+ .1	+ 1.8	+ .1	+ 10.9	- 11.9	+ 1.9	- 1.9	0
Seranton	- 1.5	+ .3	+ .5	- .3	+ 10.7	- 9.6	+ 2.4	+ .4	+ .5
East North Central:									
Chicago	- .5	+ .8	- .6	+ .2	+ 9.5	- 3.7	- .6	+ .5	+ .3
Cincinnati	- .2	+ .1	+ .6	- .2	+ 7.2	- 2.7	- .1	+ .1	+ 2.8
Cleveland	+ .1	+ .7	- .5	0	+ 8.5	- 1.4	+ 1.3	- .6	+ .7
Columbus, Ohio	+ .6	0	+ 1.4	0	+ 10.4	- 3.1	0	0	- .3
Detroit	- 2.9	+ .2	- .1	0	+ 12.2	- 13.0	+ 2.1	+ .3	+ .2
Indianapolis	- 1.4	+ .4	- 2.2	0	+ 6.7	- 5.6	- .4	+ .2	+ 1.0
Milwaukee	- 1.3	0	- .2	+ .1	+ 10.6	- 7.8	0	+ .6	- .4
Peoria	- 1.4	+ .1	- 1.0	- .2	+ 2.4	- 4.2	+ .4	- .5	+ .7
Springfield, Ill.	- 1.5	- .2	- 1.0	+ .1	+ 1.3	- 4.5	0	+ 1.1	- .9
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	- 1.1	+ .5	- 1.1	- .3	+ 3.4	- 4.2	+ .7	0	- .6
Kansas City	- .2	- .2	- .7	0	+ 7.5	- 2.1	+ .3	- .5	- 1.1
Minneapolis	- .7	+ .3	+ .5	0	+ 6.9	- 6.2	+ .2	+ .4	- .4
Omaha	- 1.9	- .2	- .7	- .1	+ 5.9	- 8.0	0	- .6	- 1.2
St. Louis	- 1.0	+ .1	- .5	+ .1	+ 6.2	- 4.3	- .6	+ .2	0
St. Paul	- 1.8	+ .2	+ .3	- .1	+ 6.5	- 11.2	- .7	+ .6	- .1
Wichita	- .3	+ .2	- .7	0	+ 6.1	- 2.5	- 2.8	+ .2	- .3

Table 7: Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change				
		July 13 1943 to Aug. 17 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to Aug. 17 1943	Aug. 18 1942 to Aug. 17 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to Aug. 17 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to Aug. 17 1943
Cents						
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)						
Canned vegetables:						
Beans, green #2 can	14.6	0	+ 6.6	+ 5.8	+ 46.0	+ 46.0
Corn "	14.0	0	+ 5.3	+ 6.9	+ 30.8	+ 34.6
Peas "	14.6	- 2.0	0	- 2.7	+ 10.6	+ 7.4
Tomatoes "	12.5	- .8	+ 7.8	+ 7.8	+ 48.8	+ 45.3
*Soup, vegetable 11 oz. can	12.8	- 2.3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits and vegetables:						
Dried fruits:						
Prunes lb.	16.7	0	+12.8	+21.9	+ 74.0	+ 89.8
Dried vegetables:						
Navy beans lb.	10.3	+ 3.0	+13.2	+14.4	+ 58.5	+ 77.6
*Soup, dehydrated chicken noodle oz.	3.7	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:						
Coffee lb.	30.0	0	+ 4.5	+ 3.8	+ 44.9	+ 34.5
Tea $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	22.9	+ 4.6	+ 2.2	+ 1.3	+ 30.1	+ 33.1
*Cocoa $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	8.9	0	-12.7	-12.7	- 2.2	+ 3.5
FATS AND OILS:						
Lard lb.	18.9	- .5	+ 9.2	+11.2	+103.2	+ 90.9
Shortening other than lard:						
In cartons lb.	19.9	0	+ 2.1	+ 1.5	+ 76.1	+ 70.1
In other containers do	24.9	+ .4	+ 2.0	+ .4	+ 36.1	+ 23.3
Salad dressing pt.	25.1	- .4	- .4	- .4	+ 24.9	<u>2/</u>
Oleomargarine lb.	24.0	+ 1.3	+ 7.1	+ 7.1	+ 53.8	+ 45.5
Peanut butter do	33.3	+ .6	+19.8	+23.8	+ 86.0	+ 86.0
*Oil, cooking or salad pt.	30.5	+ .3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:						
Sugar lb.	6.8	0	- 1.4	0	+ 33.3	+ 30.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.7	0	+ 4.0	+ 4.7	+ 15.4	+ 14.6
*Molasses 18 oz.	15.7	0	+ 5.4	+ 6.8	+ 17.2	+ 15.4
*Apple butter 16 oz.	13.2	+ .8	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Table 7. Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Average Prices Cents	Percent Change				
		July 13 1943 to Aug. 17 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to Aug. 17 1943	Aug. 18 1942 to Aug. 17 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to Aug. 17 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to Aug. 17 1943
MEATS: (Continued)						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens <u>2/12</u> lb.	44.3	+ .1	+10.1	+11.7	+ 51.4	+ 55.6
Fish:						
Fish (fresh, frozen) <u>2/11</u> lb.	1/	- 3.5	+22.4	+25.8	+ 74.5	+106.0
Salmon, pink - 16 oz. can	23.7	- .8	+ 8.7	+ 9.2	+ 51.0	+ 85.2
*Salmon, red "	41.4	+ 1.2	+ 2.0	+ 2.5	+ 56.8	+ 79.2
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter lb.	50.5 <u>5/4</u>	.2	- .2	+ 4.3	+ 32.9	+ 64.5
Cheese "	37.4	- 1.8	+ 9.0	+10.0	+ 38.5	+ 51.4
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.5	0	+ 3.3	+ 3.3	+ 19.2	+ 29.2
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.4	0	+ 6.7	+ 6.7	+ 21.0	+ 30.9
Milk, fresh (av. retail) "	15.1	0	+ 4.1	+ 4.1	+ 18.9	+ 29.1
Milk, evaporated <u>14 1/2</u> oz. can	10.1	0	+13.5	+16.1	+ 42.3	+ 50.7
EGGS:						
Eggs, fresh <u>2/</u> doz.	59.2	+ 9.0	+ 7.9	+14.9	+ 71.9	+ 84.6
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits and vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples lb.	11.3	-16.9	+82.3	+71.2	+117.3	+156.8
Bananas "	12.0	+ .8	+16.5	+20.0	+ 81.8	+ 96.7
Oranges doz.	50.3	+ 4.8	+28.6	+27.7	+ 84.2	+ 59.7
*Grapefruit each	9.6	- 5.9	+ 2.1	+14.3	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green lb.	13.7	-14.9	+18.1	+13.2	- 2.1	+ 90.3
Cabbage "	4.9	-24.6	+25.6	+16.7	+ 44.1	+ 25.6
Carrots bunch	8.1	- 2.4	+17.4	+19.1	+ 35.0	+ 76.1
Lettuce head	12.6	- 6.7	+ .8	-14.3	+ 50.0	+ 50.0
Onions lb.	7.9	-10.2	+75.6	+75.6	+119.4	+119.4
Potatoes 15 lb.	64.5	- 9.8	+33.5	+30.6	+120.9	+ 87.5
Spinach lb.	13.4	- 7.6	+25.2	+26.4	+ 83.6	+ 71.8
Sweetpotatoes "	14.2	-17.4	+121.9	+71.1	+184.0	+158.2
*Beets bunch	8.2	- 3.5	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>
Canned fruits and vegetables						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches #2 <u>1/2</u> can	26.8	- .4	+11.7	+13.6	+ 62.4	+ 56.7
Pineapple "	28.0	0	- 1.1	+ 1.4	+ 34.0	+ 33.3
Grapefruit juice #2 "	14.3	0	+15.3	+22.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

5/ July price revised from 51.1 to 50.4 cents per lb.

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods, (Cont'd)

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - July 13, 1943 to August 17, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	-1.6	+ .3	- .4	0	+10.9	-10.7	- .2	+ .4	- .2
Baltimore	- .8	+ .7	- .6	- .1	+ 8.3	- 4.0	+ .2	+ .6	- .8
Charleston, S. C.	+ .1	- .1	+ .8	- .3	+11.9	- 3.0	- .3	- .1	-1.1
Jacksonville	-1.0	+ .2	- .9	+1.4	+12.1	- 6.6	-1.6	+ .3	+ .4
Norfolk	+ .5	+ .1	+ .8	+ .1	+10.6	- 1.5	+ .2	+ .3	+ .4
Richmond	+ .1	+1.5	- .9	- .3	+ 8.0	- 2.7	+2.9	+ .8	+ .5
Savannah	- .4	- .1	- .2	- .2	+ 7.3	- 2.8	+ .1	+ .6	- .9
Washington, D.C.	-1.1	+ .2	- 1.5	- .2	+ 9.6	- 4.0	- .1	- .3	+1.8
Winston-Salem	+1.3	+1.4	- 2.0	- .4	+12.8	+ 5.2	- .9	-1.7	- .3
East South Central:									
Birmingham	+ .3	+ .2	- 1.2	- .2	+12.3	- 2.5	+ .2	- .2	+1.3
Jackson	+2.3	+1.9	- .3	- .1	+15.3	+ 7.0	0	-1.8	- .1
Knoxville	+ .3	+ .1	- .2	- .1	+12.7	- 4.7	0	- .2	+1.5
Louisville	- .1	+ .6	- .9	- .1	+ 9.4	- 3.6	+ .3	+1.1	+ .6
Memphis	+ .2	0	- .5	- .3	+10.2	- 1.9	-1.2	+1.0	+ .8
Mobile	+ .7	- .7	- .2	- .1	+11.5	+ 1.6	- .2	+ .4	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	- .1	+ .5	- 1.5	0	+11.6	- 2.0	+ .7	+ .5	- .1
Houston	- .9	0	- .2	- .7	+ 5.6	- 4.3	- .1	- .1	+ .2
Little Rock	+1.8	+ .2	+ .5	0	+15.3	+ 2.8	- .3	+ .6	+ .5
New Orleans	- .3	+ .3	- .7	- .1	+ 9.2	- 2.3	+ .4	+ .2	- .1
Mountain:									
Butte	-1.0	0	- .8	- .1	+14.6	- 5.5	+ .4	+ .3	0
Denver	-2.8	- .3	- .6	- .1	+11.7	-10.7	+1.6	0	+ .2
Salt Lake City	-1.9	+ .1	- .4	+ .9	+10.3	-10.4	+1.4	- .6	-1.0
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	- .9	+ .6	- .6	+ .1	+10.5	- 5.3	+ .5	+ .5	-1.2
Portland, Oreg.	- .7	+ .1	-2.2	- .1	+13.8	- 4.5	+ .3	+ .5	- .2
San Francisco	-1.9	- .1	-2.1	- .7	+ 9.5	- 7.4	0	0	- .7
Seattle	- .8	- .1	- .8	0	+ 8.7	- 5.8	+1.0	- .7	- .6

Table 7: Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity		Average Prices	Percent Change				
			July 13	Sept. 15	Aug. 18	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
			1943 to Aug. 17 1943	1942 to Aug. 17 1943	1942 to Aug. 17 1943	1941 to Aug. 17 1943	1939 to Aug. 17 1943
Cents							
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Floor, wheat	10 lb.	61.7	+ .5	+13.6	+18.2	+ 49.0	+ 72.3
Macaroni	1 lb.	15.6	0	+10.6	+10.6	+ 13.0	+ 11.4
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.4	0	- 2.5	- 2.5	- .4	- 3.3
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.7	+ 1.5	- 4.3	- 5.6	- 5.6	- 4.3
Corn meal	1 lb.	5.8	+ 1.8	+16.0	+18.4	+ 38.1	+ 45.0
*Rice	"	12.8	+ 1.6	+ 2.4	+ 3.2	+ 62.0	+ 70.7
Rollied oats	"	8.6	0	- 1.1	- 1.1	+ 21.1	+ 21.1
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	10.5	0	1/	1/	1/	1/
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	1 b.	8.9	0	+ 2.3	+ 2.3	+ 14.1	+ 14.1
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.8	0	+ 3.2	+ 3.2	+ 12.6	+ 11.4
Bread, rye	"	10.1	0	+ 4.1	+ 4.1	+ 12.2	+ 9.8
Vanilla cookies	"	28.1	- 1.4	+ 4.1	+ 1.8	+ 12.0	2/
Soda crackers	"	18.4	+ 2.2	+10.8	+11.5	+ 22.7	+ 24.3
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	1 b.	41.6	- 1.7	- 5.9	- 5.5	+ 7.8	+ 14.3
Rib roast	"	33.7	- 1.2	- 2.9	- 2.0	+ 7.0	+ 16.6
Chuck roast	"	29.0	- .3	- 3.3	- 2.4	+ 15.1	+ 28.9
*Stew meat	"	30.8	- 1.3	1/	1/	1/	1/
Liver	"	36.1	- 1.9	1/	1/	1/	1/
Hamburger	"	28.3	- 1.4	1/	1/	1/	1/
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	45.5	- 1.7	-17.1	-16.7	+ .7	+ 7.1
*Roast, boned and rolled	"	34.6	- .6	1/	1/	1/	1/
Pork:							
Chops	"	38.0	- .8	-11.8	-11.4	+ 30.6	+ 23.0
Bacon, sliced	"	42.2	- 1.2	+ 3.2	+ 5.5	+ 40.2	+ 38.8
Ham, sliced	"	52.6	- 1.1	-11.7	-11.1	+ 16.6	+ 13.4
Ham, whole	"	36.1	- .6	- 5.7	- 5.0	+ 37.8	+ 31.8
Salt pork	"	23.0	- .4	- 3.4	- 3.0	+ 37.7	+ 49.4
*Liver	"	22.2	- 1.3	1/	1/	1/	1/
*Sausage	"	38.4	- .3	1/	1/	1/	1/
*Bologna, big	"	34.4	- .6	1/	1/	1/	1/
Lamb:							
Leg	"	40.0	- 1.2	+ 5.5	+ 6.1	+ 43.9	+ 44.9
Rib chops	"	46.0	- 1.1	- 2.3	- 1.7	+ 31.4	+ 25.3

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Aug.17	July17	Sept.15	Aug.18	Jan.11	July13	Sept.15	Aug.18	Jan.11
	1943	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943	1942	1942	1941
	2/					to	to	to	to
						Aug.17	Aug.17	Aug.17	Aug.17
						1943	1943	1943	1943
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	139.2	141.5	125.9	124.9	94.3	- 1.6	+10.6	+11.4	+17.6
Baltimore	145.2	146.3	131.2	129.6	97.9	- .8	+10.7	+12.0	+18.3
Charleston, S.C.	136.5	136.4	126.6	125.2	95.9	+ .1	+ 7.8	+ 9.0	+12.3
Jacksonville	150.9	152.5	134.2	134.9	98.8	+ 1.0	+12.4	+11.9	+52.7
Norfolk 5/	151.1	150.4	131.9	131.6	95.8	+ .5	+14.6	+14.8	+57.7
Richmond	137.0	136.9	126.2	125.6	93.7	+ .1	+ 8.6	+ 9.1	+16.2
Savannah	152.4	153.0	133.3	132.3	100.5	- .4	+14.3	+15.2	+51.6
Washington, D.C.	138.5	140.1	128.1	127.5	97.7	- 1.1	+ 8.1	+ 8.6	+11.8
Winston-Salem 4/	138.3	3/136.5	119.8	121.1	93.7	+ 1.3	+15.4	+14.2	+17.6
East South Central:									
Birmingham	141.3	140.9	125.3	126.1	96.0	+ .3	+12.8	+12.1	+17.2
Jackson 4/	151.5	148.1	141.0	134.0	105.3	+ 2.3	+ 7.4	+13.1	+13.9
Knoxville 4/	156.2	3/155.8	134.2	132.9	97.1	+ .3	+16.4	+17.5	+60.9
Louisville	134.7	134.9	124.2	124.3	95.5	- .1	+ 8.5	+ 8.4	+11.0
Memphis	148.0	147.7	129.7	132.1	94.2	+ .2	+14.1	+12.0	+57.1
Mobile	149.7	148.6	133.9	131.4	97.9	+ .7	+11.8	+13.9	+52.9
West South Central:									
Dallas	135.4	135.5	123.7	122.7	92.6	- .1	+ 9.5	+10.4	+16.2
Houston	136.2	137.4	130.8	130.0	102.6	- .9	+ 4.1	+ 4.8	+32.7
Little Rock	137.6	135.2	129.2	127.6	95.6	+ 1.8	+ 6.5	+ 7.8	+13.9
New Orleans	153.3	153.8	135.9	135.6	101.9	- .3	+12.8	+13.1	+50.4
Mountain:									
Butte	137.2	3/138.6	124.6	123.6	98.7	- 1.0	+10.1	+11.0	+39.0
Denver	134.5	138.4	126.8	126.0	94.8	- 2.8	+ 6.1	+ 6.7	+11.9
Salt Lake City	139.5	142.2	130.1	128.8	97.5	- 1.9	+ 7.2	+ 8.3	+13.1
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	141.1	142.4	137.9	136.8	101.8	- .9	+ 2.3	+ 3.1	+38.6
Portland, Oreg.	144.7	145.7	141.2	137.8	101.7	- .7	+ 2.5	+ 5.0	+12.3
San Francisco	137.3	3/140.0	133.5	130.2	99.6	- 1.9	+ 2.8	+ 5.5	+37.9
Seattle	139.8	140.9	137.3	136.1	101.0	- .8	+ 1.8	+ 2.7	+38.4

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

Preliminary.

Revised.

Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes 1935-39=100					Percent Change				
	Aug.17	July13	Sept.15	Aug.18	Jan.14	July13	Sept.15	Aug.18	Jan.14	
	1943	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943	1942	1942	1941	
	2/					to	to	to	to	
						Aug.17	Aug.17	Aug.17	Aug.17	
						1943	1943	1943	1943	
United States	137.2	139.0	126.6	126.1	97.8	- 1.3	+ 8.4	+ 8.8	+40.3	
New England:										
Boston	131.1	132.5	124.4	122.5	95.2	- 1.1	+ 5.4	+ 7.0	+37.7	
Bridgeport	135.2	139.1	127.1	126.4	96.5	- 2.8	+ 6.4	+ 7.0	+40.1	
Fall River	134.0	135.6	125.7	125.4	97.5	- 1.2	+ 6.6	+ 6.9	+37.4	
Manchester	133.7	136.6	126.8	125.2	96.6	- 2.1	+ 5.4	+ 6.8	+38.4	
New Haven	136.7	138.2	126.2	125.2	95.7	- 1.1	+ 8.3	+ 9.2	+42.8	
Portland, Maine	133.6	136.1	125.8	125.8	95.3	- 1.8	+ 6.2	+ 6.2	+40.2	
Providence	135.0	135.8	126.3	126.1	96.3	- .6	+ 6.9	+ 7.1	+40.2	
Middle Atlantic:										
Buffalo	138.1	140.5	127.6	127.6	100.2	- 1.7	+ 8.2	+ 8.2	+37.8	
Newark	139.0	141.2	128.0	127.0	98.8	- 1.6	+ 8.6	+ 9.4	+40.7	
New York	137.2	140.5	125.2	125.1	99.5	- 2.3	+ 9.6	+ 9.7	+37.9	
Philadelphia	135.3	135.8	123.9	124.0	95.0	- .4	+ 9.2	+ 9.1	+42.4	
Pittsburgh	137.8	138.9	125.9	125.0	98.0	- .8	+ 9.5	+10.2	+40.6	
Rochester	133.1	134.8	125.2	125.2	99.9	- 1.3	+ 6.3	+ 6.3	+33.2	
Scranton	137.5	139.6	125.6	125.5	97.5	- 1.5	+ 9.5	+ 9.6	+41.0	
East North Central:										
Chicago	136.4	137.1	124.9	125.5	98.2	- .5	+ 9.2	+ 8.7	+38.9	
Cincinnati	137.6	137.9	126.9	125.8	96.5	- .2	+ 8.4	+ 9.4	+42.6	
Cleveland	145.2	145.0	127.3	125.8	99.2	+ .1	+14.1	+15.4	+46.4	
Columbus, Ohio	131.6	130.8	119.6	119.2	93.4	+ .6	+10.0	+10.4	+40.9	
Detroit	134.8	138.8	124.7	123.7	97.0	- 2.9	+ 8.1	+ 9.0	+39.0	
Indianapolis	135.1	137.0	127.1	126.9	98.2	- 1.4	+ 6.3	+ 6.5	+37.6	
Milwaukee	134.4	136.2	121.0	121.7	95.9	- 1.3	+11.1	+10.4	+40.1	
Peoria	141.2	143.2	130.7	130.2	99.0	- 1.4	+ 8.0	+ 8.4	+42.6	
Springfield, Ill.	142.1	144.2	130.2	130.9	96.2	- 1.5	+ 9.1	+ 8.6	+47.7	
West North Central:										
Cedar Rapids 4/	138.0	139.6	121.2	120.0	95.9	- 1.1	+13.9	+15.0	+43.9	
Kansas City	131.7	132.0	120.7	121.2	92.4	- .2	+ 9.1	+ 8.7	+42.5	
Minneapolis	130.4	131.3	123.3	122.9	99.0	- .7	+ 5.8	+ 6.1	+31.7	
Omaha	130.8	133.3	123.2	121.4	97.9	- 1.9	+ 6.2	+ 7.7	+33.6	
St. Louis	140.2	141.6	126.7	129.0	99.2	- 1.0	+10.7	+ 8.7	+41.3	
St. Paul	128.9	131.2	120.8	119.7	98.6	- 1.8	+ 6.7	+ 7.7	+30.7	
Wichita 4/	146.2	146.7	132.0	131.3	97.2	- .3	+10.8	+11.3	+50.4	

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

4/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

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Bureau of Labor Statistics

UNIVERSITY OF Washington, D. C.

Prices and Cost of Living Branch

COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD

September 1943

The cost of living for city workers went up in the month from August to September by 0.4 percent after declining by 1.4 percent in the previous three months, Secretary of Labor Perkins reported today.

"The largest increase was in clothing prices as new fall lines were introduced," she said. "Prices for food, the most important part of the family budget, on the average, were 0.1 percent higher but there were wide variations in different parts of the country. Reports to the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate growing shortages of a number of important cost of living items.

"In September, the Bureau's index of living costs stood at 123.9 percent of the average for 1935-39. This is 5.2 percent higher than September last year, 6.8 percent above the May 1942 level, and 22.9 percent above January 1941, base date for the Little Steel Formula.

"The slight rise in food costs over the month (0.1 percent) was due principally to higher prices for fish and eggs. Eggs were up by 6 percent and were double the prewar level of August 1939. OPA regulations on eggs, recognizing customary variations, allowed a seasonal advance in egg prices. Egg ceilings will start going down in November. Fish prices rose 3.6 percent over the month. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices were down 2 percent, as seasonal declines continued in most parts of the country for potatoes, sweet potatoes, onions, apples, and spinach. Prices for lettuce, green beans, and carrots advanced sharply as home grown produce was no longer available in large quantity. Likewise oranges rose sharply, reflecting short supplies and higher ceilings permitted between seasons of heavy production. Reports of shortages were most widespread for oranges, butter, chickens, corn meal, apples and spinach. The changes in food costs varied greatly from city to city ranging from declines of about 2 percent to increases of nearly 2 percent. In the cities where food costs went up most, seasonal declines during the summer had been large.

"Higher prices for the new fall lines (under the OPA formula for adjustment to higher costs) and unavailability of lower priced clothing resulted in a substantial advance in total clothing costs. Increases were most marked for women's wear with average prices for women's fur-trimmed coats 8 percent higher and for untrimmed wool coats 17 percent higher than in September 1942. The Bureau reported an acute shortage of children's shoes.

"Costs for housefurnishings edged up slightly with the lower priced merchandise continuing to disappear. However, for some products such as furniture and brooms, there were significant price increases, as well as lowering of qualities.

LS 44-1522

"September rents were slightly higher in 15 of the 34 cities in the index and lower in two cities at the end of the month. The total rent bill for large cities remained unchanged. Higher rents were in most cases accompanied by changes in tenancy. Reports of acute housing shortage and lack of desirable dwellings continued from practically all cities and additional charges for facilities and services formerly included in the rent were common.

"The costs for services and miscellaneous goods were also up in September, continuing the steady advance begun in August last year. The dollar haircut of World War I has again made its appearance in some cities with 75 cents the usual charge, against the prewar charge of 50 cents or less. Haircuts are not subject to price control. There were also substantial increases in cost for medical services and domestic services, admissions to motion pictures, all of which are also beyond the scope of the Emergency Price Control Act, and in prices for a variety of other goods including some soaps and toilet articles.

"Prices of fuel, electricity and ice remained virtually unchanged from August to September."

Table 1.

Report for September 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: July 15	123.91/	139.0	129.11/	108.0	107.61/	125.61/	116.11/
August 15	123.41/	137.2	129.61/	108.0	107.7	125.91/	116.5
September 15	123.9	137.4	132.5	108.0	107.7	126.3	117.0

Table 1a

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel electricity and ice	House furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
August 15, 1943 to September 15, 1943	+0.4	+0.1	+2.2	0	0	+0.3	+0.4
September 15, 1942 to September 15, 1943	+5.2	+8.5	+5.3	0	+1.4	+2.2	+5.0
May 15, 1942 to September 15, 1943	+6.8	+13.0	+5.0	-1.7	+2.7	+3.4	+5.5
January 15, 1941 to September 15, 1943	+22.9	+40.5	+31.6	+2.9	+6.8	+26.2	+14.8
August 15, 1939 to September 15, 1943	+25.7	+47.0	+32.1	+3.5	+10.5	+25.5	+16.5

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Revised. On the quarterly dates, March 15, June 15, September 15, and December 15, prices are collected on a full list of goods and services in 34 large cities. On the intervening monthly dates, prices are collected in 21 cities and for a shorter list of items. It is sometimes necessary, therefore, to correct the indexes for the two previous months when the quarterly indexes are prepared, to take account of price movements not represented in the preliminary indexes for the intervening months.

Table 2.

Report for September 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change Between August 15, 1943 and September 15, 1943, by Groups*

(Some indexes for August revised)

Area and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel electricity and ice	House furnish- ings	Mis- cella- neous
Average: Large Cities	+0.4	+0.1 ^{1/}	+2.2	0	0	+0.3	+0.4
New England:							
Boston	+0.3	-0.1	+3.0	0	0	+0.7	+0.1
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	+0.1	-0.4	+2.2	0	0	+0.2	+0.1
New York	+1.0	+0.9	+3.2	+0.1	0	+0.8	+0.9
Philadelphia	+0.2	-0.1	+1.3	0	0	+0.2	+0.3
Pittsburgh	+0.5	-0.3	+4.9	+0.1	0	+0.6	+0.2
East North Central:							
Chicago	+0.7	+0.4	+2.6	0	0	+0.2	+1.2
Cincinnati	-0.2	-1.0	+1.0	0	0	+0.5	0
Cleveland	+0.2	-0.9	+2.1	+0.1	0	+0.3	+1.6
Detroit	-0.2	-0.9	+1.5	0	0	+0.2	-0.2
West North Central:							
Kansas City	+0.4	+0.7	+0.9	-0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2
Minneapolis	+0.2	0	+1.1	+0.1	0	-0.6	+0.3
St. Louis	-0.1	-0.8	+1.6	0	0	0	+0.4
South Atlantic:							
Baltimore	+0.3	+0.1	+2.1	-0.1	+0.1	+0.5	+0.3
Savannah	+0.3	+0.1	+1.3	+0.3	+0.3	+0.2	+0.3
Washington, D. C.	+0.4	0	+2.3	0	+0.1	+0.4	+0.2
East South Central							
Birmingham	+0.8	+1.1	+1.7	+0.3	0	0	+0.3
West South Central							
Houston	+1.1	+1.8	+2.6	-0.1	0	0	+0.1
Mountain:							
Denver	+0.4	+0.2	+1.0	0	+0.4	+0.1	0
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	+0.6	+0.5	+2.1	+0.1	0	0	+0.3
San Francisco	+1.0	+1.9	+2.3	0	0	+0.2	0
Seattle	+1.6	+1.9	+1.7	+0.1	0	+0.1	+2.4

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

^{1/} Based on prices for 56 cities collected on the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

Table 3.

Report for September 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and Other Specified Dates*

Area and City	Percentage Changes			
	Sept. 15, 1942	Aug. 15, 1939	Jan. 1, 1941	May 15, 1942
	to Sept. 15, 1943	to Sept. 15, 1943	to Sept. 15, 1943	to Sept. 15, 1943
Average: Large Cities	+ 5.2	+ 25.7	+ 22.9	+ 6.8
New England				
Boston	+ 3.6	+ 24.0	+ 21.5	+ 6.2
Manchester	+ 4.4	+ 28.3	+ 25.2	<u>1/</u>
Portland, Maine	+ 3.7	+ 26.1	+ 24.3	<u>1/</u>
Middle Atlantic				
Buffalo	+ 4.1	+ 27.4	+ 23.2	+ 4.1
New York	+ 6.6	+ 25.3	+ 22.8	+ 9.4
Philadelphia	+ 5.0	+ 25.5	+ 23.7	+ 7.0
Pittsburgh	+ 5.9	+ 26.4	+ 22.9	+ 7.4
Scranton	+ 5.2	+ 26.2	+ 22.2	<u>1/</u>
East North Central				
Chicago	+ 5.5	+ 25.3	+ 22.2	+ 6.2
Cincinnati	+ 4.8	+ 27.1	+ 24.2	+ 6.7
Cleveland	+ 7.3	+ 28.3	+ 25.8	+ 8.0
Detroit	+ 5.1	+ 26.3	+ 23.2	+ 4.7
Indianapolis	+ 4.7	+ 27.2	+ 22.3	<u>1/</u>
Milwaukee	+ 5.3	+ 25.2	+ 22.4	<u>1/</u>
West North Central				
Kansas City	+ 5.8	+ 23.0	+ 23.3	+ 6.3
Minneapolis	+ 3.6	+ 21.4	+ 18.9	+ 4.4
St. Louis	+ 5.1	+ 25.0	+ 21.4	+ 6.1
South Atlantic				
Atlanta	+ 6.2	+ 27.1	+ 24.8	<u>1/</u>
Baltimore	+ 5.2	+ 27.7	+ 25.1	+ 6.6
Jacksonville	+ 8.6	+ 33.9	+ 29.4	<u>1/</u>
Norfolk	+ 7.4	+ 34.0	+ 30.3	<u>1/</u>
Richmond	+ 4.1	+ 24.5	+ 22.5	<u>1/</u>
Savannah	+ 8.5	+ 33.4	+ 30.7	+ 9.6
Washington, D. C.	+ 5.5	+ 25.3	+ 23.6	+ 7.7
East South Central				
Birmingham	+ 7.4	+ 29.5	+ 25.6	+ 7.5
Memphis	+ 7.6	+ 31.3	+ 28.7	<u>1/</u>
Mobile	+ 5.1	+ 28.9	+ 26.6	<u>1/</u>
West South Central				
Houston	+ 4.6	+ 22.5	+ 21.0	+ 6.2
New Orleans	+ 7.2	+ 30.7	+ 28.1	<u>1/</u>
Mountain				
Denver	+ 3.8	+ 23.3	+ 21.6	+ 5.2
Pacific				
Los Angeles	+ 3.0	+ 24.8	+ 22.3	+ 6.2
Portland, Oregon	+ 3.3	+ 28.9	+ 26.5	<u>1/</u>
San Francisco	+ 3.9	+ 26.5	+ 23.4	+ 6.8
Seattle	+ 4.2	+ 27.4	+ 25.2	+ 5.4

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Data for May 15, 1942 not available.

Table 4.

Report for September 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Between June 15, 1943 and September 15, 1943 by Groups*

Area and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Average: Large Cities	-0.7	-3.2	+3.6	0	0	+0.7	+1.1
New England:							
Boston	-1.1	-4.2	+4.5	0	0	+1.4	+1.2
Manchester	-2.3	-6.6	+2.8	+0.2	0	+1.4	+1.6
Portland, Maine	-1.7	-5.6	+4.0	0	-0.2	+0.6	+0.4
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	-1.8	-5.4	+3.5	0	0	+0.2	+0.1
New York	+0.2	-2.1	+5.6	+0.1	0	+1.3	+1.8
Philadelphia	-0.9	-2.9	+3.1	0	0	+0.6	+0.4
Pittsburgh	-0.4	-3.4	+6.8	0	0	+1.5	+1.4
Scranton	-1.9	-5.0	+2.3	0	0	+0.6	+0.5
East North Central:							
Chicago	-0.3	-2.1	+3.7	0	0	+0.4	+1.3
Cincinnati	-0.5	-2.2	+2.0	+0.1	0	+2.1	0
Cleveland	-0.7	-3.7	+4.1	+0.1	0	+0.8	+1.7
Detroit	-1.9	-5.6	+2.4	0	0	+0.8	+0.4
Indianapolis	-1.2	-4.1	+1.9	-0.1	-0.1	+0.8	+0.5
Milwaukee	-1.1	-3.7	+2.2	0	+0.2	+0.4	+0.5
West North Central:							
Kansas City	-0.4	-2.4	+3.5	0	+0.2	+0.4	+0.4
Minneapolis	-0.7	-2.8	+1.6	+0.1	+0.6	-0.2	+0.6
St. Louis	-0.9	-3.1	+3.3	0	0	0	+0.5
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta	-0.5	-2.8	+0.9	+0.1	+0.4	+0.3	+2.0
Baltimore	-1.6	-4.7	+3.9	-0.1	+0.1	+1.1	+0.3
Jacksonville	+0.9	-1.1	+3.2	+0.1	+1.2	+0.8	+3.8
Norfolk	-0.2	-1.3	+2.2	0	0	+0.4	+0.2
Richmond	-0.5	-2.1	+1.4	0	0	+0.7	+0.4
Savannah	+0.2	-0.8	+2.8	0	+0.4	+0.2	+1.0
Washington, D. C.	-0.2	-2.9	+4.1	0	+1.2	+0.5	+0.7
East South Central:							
Birmingham	+0.9	+0.7	+2.5	+0.4	0	0	+1.5
Memphis	+1.1	-0.1	+3.1	+0.2	0	+0.8	+3.2
Mobile	-0.9	-1.3	+0.9	0	-7.6	0	0
West South Central:							
Houston	+0.2	-0.9	+3.9	+0.1	-3.9	+0.3	+0.4
New Orleans	+0.5	-0.3	+1.9	+0.2	+8.6	0	+0.4
Mountain:							
Denver	-1.5	-4.4	+1.4	0	+1.6	+0.1	+0.1
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	-0.7	-3.4	+3.0	+0.1	0	-0.2	+1.7
Portland, Oregon	-1.3	-4.8	+3.5	0	0	+0.2	+1.4
San Francisco	-2.4	-6.6	+2.0	0	-0.1	-0.1	+0.9
Seattle	-0.2	-2.9	+2.1	+0.2	+0.5	+0.5	+3.0

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/Based on prices for 56 cities collected on the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

Table 5.

Report for September 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*
 (Some Indexes for July and August Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel electricity and ice	House- furnish- ings	Mis- cella- neous
Average, Large Cities:							
July 15	123.9	139.0 ^{1/}	129.1	108.0	107.6	125.6	116.1
August 15	123.4	137.2 ^{1/}	129.6	108.0	107.7	125.9	116.5
September 15	123.9	137.4 ^{1/}	132.5	108.0	107.7	126.3	117.0
Atlanta:							
July 15	<u>2/</u>	141.5	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	112.5	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
August 15	<u>2/</u>	139.2	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	112.6	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
September 15	124.6	139.9	129.6	106.5	112.9	120.7	119.5
Baltimore:							
July 15	126.0	146.3	129.7	106.7	106.7	129.4	114.3
August 15	125.6	145.2	129.7	106.7	106.7	129.7	114.3
September 15	126.0	145.3	132.4	106.6	106.8	130.4	114.6
Birmingham:							
July 15	126.2	140.9	129.7	122.0	102.4	121.8	116.3
August 15	126.6	141.3	130.3	121.9	102.4	121.8	117.2
September 15	127.6	142.9	132.5	122.3	102.4	121.8	117.6
Boston:							
July 15	120.3	132.5	124.5	104.9	118.4	120.2	112.4
August 15	120.0	131.1	125.1	104.9	118.4	120.6	113.4
September 15	120.4	131.0	128.8	104.9	118.4	121.5	113.5
Buffalo:							
July 15	126.2	140.5	128.4	114.6	104.8	126.6	121.6
August 15	125.4	137.9	129.3	114.6	104.8	126.6	121.6
September 15	125.5	137.3	132.1	114.6	104.8	126.8	121.7
Chicago:							
July 15	122.5	137.1	124.9	114.5	103.2	120.5	113.8
August 15	122.9	136.4	125.1	114.5	103.2	120.6	113.9
September 15	123.7	137.0	128.3	114.5	103.2	120.9	115.3
Cincinnati:							
July 15	124.0	137.9	133.8	105.1	103.8	129.2	116.8
August 15	124.0	137.6	133.8	105.2	103.8	130.6	116.8
September 15	123.7	136.2	135.2	105.2	103.8	131.3	116.8
Cleveland:							
July 15	127.9	145.0	133.0	115.4	113.5	125.4	115.4
August 15	128.0	145.2	133.4	115.4	113.5	125.7	115.5
September 15	128.3	143.9	136.2	115.5	113.5	126.1	117.3
Denver:							
July 15	122.7	138.4	124.6	109.0	100.4	121.9	116.2
August 15	121.1	134.5	124.7	109.0	100.9	121.9	116.2
September 15	121.6	134.8	125.9	109.0	101.3	122.0	116.2
Detroit:							
July 15	126.0	138.8	130.0	114.4	108.8	123.2	122.7
August 15	124.6	134.8	130.5	114.4	108.8	123.7	122.7
September 15	124.4	133.6	132.4	114.4	108.8	124.0	122.5
Houston:							
July 15	122.4	137.4	130.4	109.2	89.2	123.0	118.4
August 15	122.1	136.2	131.0	109.2	89.2	123.2	118.4
September 15	123.4	138.7	134.4	109.1	89.2	123.2	118.5

Table 5. (Continued)

Report for September 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

(Some Indexes for July and August Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel electricity and ice	House-furnish-ings	Mis-cella-neous
Indianapolis:							
July 15	2/	137.0	2/	2/	110.3	2/	2/
August 15	2/	135.1	2/	2/	110.3	2/	2/
September 15	124.7	134.6	131.0	115.5	110.3	130.4	118.8
Jacksonville:							
July 15	2/	152.5	2/	2/	112.4	2/	2/
August 15	2/	150.9	2/	2/	112.4	2/	2/
September 15	131.9	150.0	131.9	112.2	113.5	126.3	127.2
Kansas City:							
July 15	120.8	132.0	127.8	108.7	107.9	120.4	117.0
August 15	120.8	131.7	128.6	108.8	107.9	120.6	117.0
September 15	121.3	132.6	129.8	108.7	108.1	120.8	117.2
Los Angeles:							
July 15	125.2	142.4	130.7	110.0	94.2	119.1	118.9
August 15	124.7	141.1	130.8	110.0	94.2	119.1	118.9
September 15	125.4	141.8	133.5	110.1	94.2	119.1	119.2
Manchester:							
July 15	2/	136.6	2/	2/	123.5	2/	2/
August 15	2/	133.7	2/	2/	123.5	2/	2/
September 15	125.5	133.9	134.0	107.8	123.5	124.3	115.8
Memphis:							
July 15	2/	147.7	2/	2/	104.2	2/	2/
August 15	2/	148.0	2/	2/	104.2	2/	2/
September 15	128.4	148.2	140.7	115.8	104.2	125.7	114.5
Milwaukee:							
July 15	2/	136.2	2/	2/	106.8	2/	2/
August 15	2/	134.4	2/	2/	106.8	2/	2/
September 15	121.4	133.6	127.4	108.2	106.8	125.1	115.6
Minneapolis:							
July 15	121.0	131.3	128.1	110.0	101.9	126.0	118.4
August 15	120.8	130.4	128.3	110.0	102.5	126.2	118.6
September 15	121.0	130.4	129.7	110.1	102.5	125.5	118.9
Mobile:							
July 15	2/	148.6	2/	2/	112.5	2/	2/
August 15	2/	149.7	2/	2/	104.0	2/	2/
September 15	127.1	147.9	128.8	113.6	103.9	121.4	115.5
New Orleans:							
July 15	2/	153.8	2/	2/	96.1	2/	2/
August 15	2/	153.3	2/	2/	104.5	2/	2/
September 15	130.3	151.7	135.2	107.2	104.3	127.4	114.5
New York:							
July 15	123.7	140.5	129.8	103.3	110.6	119.2	115.1
August 15	122.8	137.2	131.0	103.3	110.7	119.6	116.1
September 15	124.0	138.4	135.2	103.4	110.7	120.5	117.1

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

(Some Indexes for July and August Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Norfolk:							
July 15	2/	150.4	2/	2/	116.0	2/	2/
Aug. 15	2/	151.1	2/	2/	116.0	2/	2/
Sept. 15	131.1	149.7	135.5	108.6	116.0	129.6	124.0
Philadelphia:							
July 15	122.6	135.8	128.7	106.7	105.8	124.2	115.0
Aug. 15	122.5	135.3	129.7	106.7	105.8	124.3	115.0
Sept. 15	122.7	135.2	131.4	106.7	105.8	124.6	115.3
Pittsburgh:							
July 15	123.9	138.9	133.0	107.2	110.3	124.3	114.6
Aug. 15	123.8	137.8	133.9	107.2	110.3	124.7	115.6
Sept. 15	124.4	137.4	140.4	107.3	110.3	125.4	115.8
Portland, Me:							
July 15	2/	136.1	2/	2/	116.8	2/	2/
Aug. 15	2/	133.6	2/	2/	116.7	2/	2/
Sept. 15	122.4	132.7	130.7	106.4	116.7	121.8	117.9
Portland, Ore:							
July 15	2/	145.7	2/	2/	116.5	2/	2/
Aug. 15	2/	144.7	2/	2/	116.5	2/	2/
Sept. 15	129.0	144.8	134.0	115.4	116.5	123.1	120.4
Richmond:							
July 15	2/	136.9	2/	2/	106.5	2/	2/
Aug. 15	2/	137.0	2/	2/	106.5	2/	2/
Sept. 15	122.0	136.7	133.8	103.9	106.5	128.6	113.5
St. Louis:							
July 15	123.2	141.6	130.8	106.1	106.2	117.6	112.5
Aug. 15	122.7	140.2	131.0	106.1	106.2	117.6	112.5
Sept. 15	122.6	139.1	133.1	106.1	106.2	117.6	112.9
San Francisco:							
July 15	125.3	140.0	127.1	106.0	92.1	118.7	124.3
Aug. 15	124.3	137.3	127.2	106.0	92.1	118.7	124.3
Sept. 15	125.6	139.9	130.1	106.0	92.1	118.9	124.3
Savannah:							
July 15	132.3	153.0	132.5	114.9	113.3	121.5	123.0
Aug. 15	132.1	152.4	132.5	114.6	113.2	121.6	123.4
Sept. 15	132.5	152.5	134.2	114.9	113.5	121.8	123.8
Scranton:							
July 15	2/	139.6	2/	2/	103.9	2/	2/
Aug. 15	2/	137.5	2/	2/	103.9	2/	2/
Sept. 15	121.2	137.2	131.6	97.3	103.9	124.6	110.8
Seattle:							
July 15	126.2	140.9	130.9	110.6	101.9	121.2	123.5
Aug. 15	125.8	139.8	131.0	110.7	102.4	121.3	123.5
Sept. 15	127.8	142.4	133.2	110.8	102.4	121.4	126.5

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

(Some Indexes for July and August revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel electricity and ice	House- furnishings	Mis- cella- neous
Washington:							
July 15	123.2	140.1	137.0	100.3	105.3	131.6	120.3
Aug. 15	123.0	138.5	137.8	100.3	106.5	131.7	120.8
Sept. 15	123.5	138.5	141.0	100.3	106.6	132.2	121.0

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

2/ Monthly data not available.

Table 5 -- Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined, 1/
Indexes, 1935-39=100

Commodity Group	1943		1942		1941	1939
	2/Sept. 14	Aug. 17	Sept. 15	May 12	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All Foods	137.4	137.2	126.6	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	108.2	108.1	105.4	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	129.9	129.7	130.6	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	118.9	3/119.3	126.0	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	114.0	114.3	124.0	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	134.9	135.0	133.7	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	147.5	147.2	133.7	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	208.5	202.2	168.2	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy Products	133.6	133.4	127.7	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	177.5	167.4	155.2	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	167.0	3/169.8	129.7	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	175.8	3/179.3	130.3	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.0	130.2	123.8	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	159.7	159.9	143.4	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	125.3	125.3	123.8	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	126.5	126.5	120.7	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar and Sweets	126.8	126.6	127.0	127.1	95.3	95.6

Table 5-A -- Percent Change

Commodity Group	Aug. 17 1943 to Sept. 14 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to Sept. 14 1943	May 12 1942 to Sept. 14 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to Sept. 14 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to Sept. 14 1943
All Foods	+ .1	+ 8.5	+ 13.0	+ 40.5	+ 47.0
Cereals and bakery products	+ .1	+ 2.7	+ 2.9	+ 14.0	+ 15.8
Meats	+ .2	- .5	+ 4.5	+ 28.5	+ 35.7
Beef and veal	- .3	- 5.6	- 4.2	+ 8.7	+ 19.4
Pork	- .3	- 8.1	- 7.5	+ 32.4	+ 29.5
Lamb	- .1	+ .9	+ 14.1	+ 36.7	+ 36.5
Chickens	+ .2	+ 10.3	+ 30.1	+ 51.7	+ 55.9
Fish, fresh and canned	+ 3.1	+ 24.0	+ 38.2	+ 75.7	+ 109.3
Dairy Products	+ .1	+ 4.6	+ 8.4	+ 27.1	+ 43.5
Eggs	+ 6.0	+ 14.4	+ 53.8	+ 82.2	+ 95.7
Fruits and vegetables	- 1.6	+ 28.3	+ 29.8	+ 79.0	+ 80.7
Fresh	- 2.0	+ 34.9	+ 35.2	+ 88.2	+ 89.4
Canned	- .2	+ 5.0	+ 5.9	+ 42.2	+ 41.9
Dried	- .1	+ 11.4	+ 21.7	+ 60.3	+ 76.9
Beverages	0	+ 1.2	+ .6	+ 37.8	+ 32.0
Fats and oils	0	+ 4.8	+ 3.3	+ 57.5	+ 49.7
Sugar and Sweets	+ .2	- .2	- .2	+ 33.1	+ 32.6

- 1/ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.
- 2/ Preliminary.
- 3/ Revised.

Table 6.- Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - August 17, 1943 to September 14, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
United States:	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 6.0	- 1.6	0.0	0.0	+ 0.2
New England:									
Boston	- .1	0	+ .5	+ 1.1	+ 4.6	- 3.5	0	0	0
Bridgeport	+ .6	+ .8	+ .8	- .1	+ 8.7	- 1.5	- 1.0	- .4	- .5
Fall River	- .4	+ .2	- .3	= .1	+ 5.2	- 3.3	0	+ .2	+ .3
Manchester	+ .1	- .2	0	+ .2	+ 8.0	- 2.1	+ .1	0	- .1
New Haven	- .1	- .1	+ .1	0	+ 4.3	- 1.4	0	- .2	+ .3
Portland, Me.	- .7	+ .3	+ .4	+ .1	+ 4.6	- 6.3	- .4	- .3	0
Providence	+ .4	+ .1	+ .3	0	+ 6.5	- 1.1	- .2	+ .4	+ .5
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	- .4	0	+ .7	+ .2	+ 4.4	- 4.5	- .3	- .1	+ .2
Newark	+ .4	+ .2	+ .6	- .1	+ 6.0	- .6	- 1.2	+ .2	- .6
New York	+ .9	0	+ 1.0	+ .1	+ 5.7	+ .5	- .2	0	+ .2
Philadelphia	- .1	+ .2	+ .1	0	+ 5.9	- 2.3	- .2	+ .8	- .5
Pittsburgh	- .3	0	- .4	0	+ 6.4	- 2.5	- .1	+ .2	+ .1
Rochester	- .8	+ .2	- .9	- .1	+ 4.3	- 4.8	+ .7	- .1	+ .1
Scranton	- .2	+ .7	- 1.1	+ .2	+ 5.1	- 2.0	- .2	+ .1	+ .3
East North Central:									
Chicago	+ .4	- .1	+ .4	+ .1	+ 5.8	- .6	+ .3	+ .2	+ .8
Cincinnati	- 1.0	0	- .7	- .1	+ 5.8	- 4.2	+ .1	- .5	+ .1
Cleveland	- .9	+ .1	+ .3	+ .3	+ 6.1	- 4.9	- .1	+ .2	- .2
Columbus, Ohio	- .5	- .2	- .1	+ .1	+ 5.5	- 4.4	- .4	- .8	0
Detroit	- .9	0	- .7	0	+ 4.2	- 4.2	- .2	- .2	+ 1.4
Indianapolis	- .4	0	+ .8	+ .2	+ 6.5	- 4.8	+ .3	- .5	0
Milwaukee	- .6	+ .6	0	0	+ 6.8	- 4.9	+ .1	+ .2	+ .9
Peoria	- .4	+ .1	- .2	0	+ 7.9	- 2.8	+ .1	+ .3	- .5
Springfield, Ill.	- .4	+ .1	0	0	+ 9.0	- 2.9	0	+ .3	- .8
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	- 1.4	+ .3	- .5	0	+ 4.5	- 6.1	- .2	- .2	- .1
Kansas City	+ .7	+ .5	+ .5	0	+ 8.5	- .7	- .4	- .9	- .6
Minneapolis	0	0	0	+ .2	+ 6.2	- 2.4	0	0	+ .8
Omaha	+ .6	+ .3	- .1	0	+ 6.3	+ 1.1	- 2.8	+ .1	- .5
St. Louis	- .8	0	- .4	0	+ 8.7	- 4.2	0	+ .1	- .1
St. Paul	- .2	0	- .3	0	+ 7.2	- 3.2	0	+ .2	+ .4
Wichita	+ .4	+ .1	+ .1	+ .1	+ 6.8	- .7	- .1	- .4	- .1

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods, (Cont'd)

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - August 17, 1943 to September 14, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	+ .5	- .5	+ .7	- .1	+ 6.7	- .7	+ .1	- .2	+ .4
Baltimore	+ .1	- .3	+ .4	+ .3	+ 7.5	- 2.0	0	0	0
Charleston, S.C.	- .1	+ .7	- .2	+ .3	+ 10.2	- 3.2	- 1.4	- .5	+ 1.1
Jacksonville	- .6	0	+ .6	+ .1	+ 5.8	- 4.7	+ 2.7	+ .2	- .1
Norfolk	- .9	+ 1.3	- .1	+ .1	+ 8.4	- 5.9	- .3	+ .1	- .4
Richmond	- .2	+ .2	- .3	+ .2	+ 9.4	- 5.0	+ 1.4	- .1	+ .6
Savannah	+ .1	+ .2	0	- .2	+ 6.4	- 1.3	- .2	+ .1	+ .4
Washington, D.C.	0	0	+ .5	+ .1	+ 6.6	- 2.0	- .2	0	- .2
Winston-Salem	+ .2	0	- .1	+ .1	+ 5.5	- 1.1	- .4	+ .8	- .1
East South Central:									
Birmingham	+ 1.1	+ 1.2	- .6	+ .1	+ 12.5	- 1.0	0	+ .2	0
Jackson	- 1.8	- 2.0	- 2.1	- .2	+ 4.3	- 4.8	- .2	- .8	- 1.3
Knoxville	+ 1.1	+ .3	+ .2	+ .1	+ 5.1	+ 2.6	0	- .3	+ .1
Louisville	+ .1	0	0	+ .1	+ 7.9	- 2.3	- .2	0	0
Memphis	+ .1	+ .3	- .3	+ .1	+ 6.9	- 1.5	- .3	+ .2	+ .8
Mobile	- 1.2	+ .2	- .5	+ .5	+ 4.8	- 6.8	+ .7	+ .3	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	- .4	0	- .7	- .1	+ 6.7	- 2.5	+ .8	- .8	+ .5
Houston	+ 1.8	+ .9	+ 1.5	+ .6	+ 10.9	+ 1.9	+ .6	- .2	+ 1.7
Little Rock	- 1.9	+ .3	- .7	+ .1	+ 6.0	- 8.9	0	+ .3	0
New Orleans	- 1.0	+ .1	- 1.0	0	+ 5.1	- 4.3	- .3	+ .1	+ .2
Mountain:									
Butte	- .9	0	- 1.5	+ 4.6	+ 6.4	- 5.7	+ .7	0	- 1.3
Denver	+ .2	- .1	- .1	+ .2	+ 6.4	- .5	- .2	+ .4	+ .1
Salt Lake City	- .6	+ .1	- 3.0	+ .1	+ 5.7	- 1.5	+ .1	+ .2	- 3.4
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	+ .5	0	- .8	- .1	+ 4.3	+ .8	+ .2	+ .1	+ .3
Portland, Oreg.	+ .1	+ .1	- .2	0	+ 4.6	- 1.1	- .1	+ .6	- .2
San Francisco	+ 1.9	+ .4	- .1	+ .1	+ 6.7	+ 4.4	- .3	+ .6	+ .1
Seattle	+ 1.9	+ .2	- .1	0	+ 6.3	+ 5.8	+ .1	+ .7	- .2

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change				
		Aug. 17, 1943 to Sept. 14, 1943	Sept. 15, 1942 to Sept. 14, 1943	May 12, 1942 to Sept. 14, 1943	Jan. 14, 1941 to Sept. 14, 1943	Aug. 15, 1939 to Sept. 14, 1943
		Cents				
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:						
Cereals:						
Flour, wheat 10 lb.	62.1	+ .5	+ 14.4	+ 20.3	+ 50.0	+ 73.5
Macaroni 1 lb.	15.7	0	+ 11.3	+ 10.6	+ 13.8	+ 12.1
*Wheat cereal 28 oz.	23.3	- .4	- 2.9	- 3.3	- .9	- 3.7
Corn flakes 8 oz.	6.6	0	- 5.7	- 8.3	- 7.0	- 5.7
Corn meal 1 lb.	5.9	+ 1.7	+ 18.0	+ 25.5	+ 40.5	+ 47.5
*Rice "	12.7	0	+ 1.6	+ 3.3	+ 60.8	+ 69.3
Rolled oats "	8.7	0	0	+ 1.2	+ 22.5	+ 22.5
*Flour, pancake 20 oz.	10.6	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:						
Bread, white 1 lb.	8.9	0	+ 2.3	+ 2.3	+ 14.1	+ 14.1
Bread, whole wheat "	9.7	- 1.0	+ 2.1	+ 2.1	+ 11.5	+ 10.2
Bread, rye "	10.1	0	+ 4.1	+ 4.1	+ 12.2	+ 9.8
Vanilla cookies "	28.8	+ .3	+ 6.7	+ 4.0	+ 14.7	<u>2/</u>
Soda crackers "	18.5	0	+ 11.4	+ 12.8	+ 23.3	+ 25.0
MEATS:						
Beef:						
Round steak 1 lb.	41.5	- .7	- 6.1	- 6.1	+ 7.5	+ 14.0
Rib roast "	33.8	0	- 2.6	- .6	+ 7.3	+ 17.0
Chuck roast "	29.0	- 1.0	- 3.3	+ .3	+ 15.1	+ 28.9
*Stew meat "	30.9	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver "	36.3	- .3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Hamburger "	28.5	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:						
Cutlets "	45.8	- .2	- 16.6	- 14.6	+ 1.3	+ 7.8
*Roast, boned & rolled "	35.2	+ .9	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:						
Chops "	37.9	0	- 12.1	- 12.3	+ 30.2	+ 22.7
Bacon, sliced "	42.0	- .5	+ 2.7	+ 6.9	+ 39.5	+ 38.2
Ham, sliced "	52.2	- .8	- 12.4	- 11.2	+ 15.7	+ 12.5
Ham, whole "	36.0	0	- 6.0	- 4.8	+ 37.4	+ 31.4
Salt pork "	22.7	- .4	- 4.6	- 5.4	+ 35.9	+ 47.4
*Liver "	22.2	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage "	38.2	- .3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologna, big "	34.5	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:						
Leg "	40.2	+ .2	+ 6.1	+ 18.9	+ 44.6	+ 45.7
Rib chops "	46.0	- .2	- 2.3	+ 11.4	+ 31.4	+ 25.3

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

3/ Computed from average prices adjusted for comparability.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change				
		Aug. 17 1943 to Sept. 14 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to Sept. 14 1943	May 12 1942 to Sept. 14 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to Sept. 14 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to Sept. 14 1943
	Cents					
MEATS: (Continued)						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens 2/ lb.	44.5	+ .2	+ 10.3	+ 30.1	+ 51.7	+ 55.9
Fish:						
Fish (fresh, frozen) 2/ "	1/--	+ 3.6	+ 26.8	+ 46.4	+ 80.8	+113.4
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.6	0	+ 8.3	+ 8.3	+ 50.3	+ 84.4
*Salmon, red "	41.7	0	+ 2.7	+ 4.2	+ 58.0	+ 80.5
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter lb.	50.5	+ .2	- .2	+ 10.5	+ 32.9	+ 64.5
Cheese "	37.0	+ .3	+ 7.9	+ 8.8	+ 37.0	+ 49.8
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.5	0	+ 3.3	+ 4.0	+ 19.2	+ 29.2
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.4	0	+ 6.7	+ 6.7	+ 21.0	+ 30.9
Milk, fresh (average) "	15.1	0	+ 4.1	+ 4.9	+ 18.9	+ 29.1
Milk, evaporated 14 ¹ / ₂ oz. can	10.1	0	+ 13.5	+ 16.1	+ 42.3	+ 50.7
EGGS:						
Eggs, fresh 2/ doz.	62.7	+ 6.0	+ 14.4	+ 53.8	+ 82.2	+ 95.7
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits and vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples lb.	10.7	- 5.3	+ 72.6	+ 42.7	+105.8	+143.2
Bananas "	12.3	+ 1.7	+ 19.4	+ 2.5	+ 86.4	+101.6
Oranges doz.	51.8	+ 1.8	+ 32.5	+ 65.0	+ 89.7	+ 64.4
*Grapefruit ea.	10.1	- 9.8	+ 7.4	+ 60.3	3/	3/
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green lb.	15.3	+10.9	+ 31.9	+ 14.2	+ 9.3	+112.5
Cabbage "	4.9	0	+ 25.6	+ 8.9	+ 44.1	+ 25.6
Carrots bunch	9.0	+11.1	+ 30.4	+ 36.4	+ 50.0	+ 95.7
Lettuce head	13.1	+ 4.8	+ 4.8	+ 42.4	+ 56.0	+ 56.0
Onions lb.	7.3	- 7.6	+ 62.2	+ 7.4	+102.8	+102.8
Potatoes 15 lb.	60.6	- 5.9	+ 25.5	+ 14.3	+107.5	+ 76.2
Spinach lb.	12.5	- 5.3	+ 16.8	+ 68.9	+ 71.2	+ 60.3
Sweetpotatoes "	10.2	-22.1	+ 59.4	+ 88.9	+104.0	+ 85.5
*Beets bunch	8.3	+ 1.2	4/	4/	4/	4/
Canned fruits and vegetables:						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches #2 ¹ / ₂ can	26.7	- .4	+ 11.2	+ 14.6	+ 61.8	+ 56.1
Pineapple "	28.0	- .4	- 1.1	+ 3.3	+ 34.0	+ 33.3
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	+ .7	+ 16.1	+ 46.9	3/	3/

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

5/ Computed from average prices adjusted for comparability.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change				
		Aug. 17 1943 to Sept. 14 1943 3/	Sept. 15 1942 to Sept. 14 1943	May 12 1942 to Sept. 14 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to Sept. 14 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to Sept. 14 1943
		Cents				
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)						
Canned vegetables:						
Beans, green #2 can	14.6	0	+ 6.6	+ 4.3	+ 46.0	+ 46.0
Corn "	14.0	0	+ 5.3	+ 7.7	+ 30.8	+ 34.6
Peas "	14.4	- .7	- 1.4	- 8.9	+ 9.1	+ 5.9
Tomatoes "	12.5	0	+ 7.8	+ 3.3	+ 48.8	+ 45.3
*Soup, vegetable 1 loz. can	12.8	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits and vegetables:						
Dried fruits:						
Prunes lb.	16.5	0	+ 11.5	+ 34.1	+ 71.9	+ 87.5
Dried vegetables:						
Navy beans lb.	10.2	- 1.0	+ 12.1	+ 13.3	+ 56.9	+ 75.9
*Soup, dehydrated chicken noodle oz.	3.7	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:						
Coffee lb.	30.0	+ .3	+ 4.5	+ 3.8	+ 44.9	+ 34.5
Tea $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	23.5	+ .4	+ 4.9	+ 4.9	+ 33.5	+ 36.6
*Cocoa $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	9.1	+ 1.1	- 10.8	- 10.8	0	+ 5.8
FATS AND OILS:						
Lard lb.	18.9	0	+ 9.2	+ 5.6	+ 103.2	+ 90.9
Shortening other than lard:						
In cartons lb.	20.0	+ .5	+ 2.6	+ 1.0	+ 77.0	+ 70.9
In other containers "	24.8	- .4	+ 1.6	- 3.9	+ 35.5	+ 22.8
Salad dressing pt.	25.3	0	+ .4	- .4	+ 25.9	2/
Oleomargarine lb.	24.0	0	+ 7.1	+ 7.1	+ 53.8	+ 45.5
Peanut butter "	33.4	+ .3	+ 20.1	+ 24.2	+ 86.6	+ 86.6
*Oil, cooking or salad pt.	30.5	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:						
Sugar lb.	6.8	0	- 1.4	- 1.4	+ 33.3	+ 30.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.9	+ .6	+ 5.3	+ 7.4	+ 16.9	+ 16.1
*Molasses 18 oz.	15.9	0	+ 6.7	+ 9.7	+ 18.7	+ 16.9
*Apple butter 16 oz.	13.2	- .8	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

3/ Computed from average prices adjusted for comparability.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from August 1939
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Sept. 14	Aug. 17	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15	Aug. 17	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	2/1943	1943	1942	1941	1939	1943	1942	1941	1939
						to	to	to	to
						Sept. 14	Sept. 14	Sept. 14	Sept. 14
						1943	1943	1943	1943
United States	137.4	137.2	126.6	97.8	93.5	+ 0.1	+ 8.5	+40.5	+47.0
New England:									
Boston	131.0	131.1	124.4	95.2	93.5	- .1	+ 5.3	+37.6	+40.1
Bridgeport	136.0	135.2	127.1	96.5	93.2	+ .6	+ 7.0	+40.9	+45.9
Fall River	133.4	134.0	125.7	97.5	95.4	- .4	+ 6.1	+36.8	+39.8
Manchester	133.9	133.7	126.8	96.6	94.9	+ .1	+ 5.6	+38.6	+41.1
New Haven	136.6	136.7	126.2	95.7	93.7	- .1	+ 8.2	+42.7	+45.8
Portland, Me.	132.7	133.6	125.8	95.3	95.9	- .7	+ 5.5	+39.2	+38.4
Providence	135.5	135.0	126.3	96.3	93.7	+ .4	+ 7.3	+40.7	+44.6
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	137.3	137.9	127.6	100.2	94.5	- .4	+ 7.6	+37.0	+45.3
Newark	139.6	139.0	128.0	98.8	95.6	+ .4	+ 9.1	+41.3	+46.0
New York	138.4	137.2	125.2	99.5	95.8	+ .9	+10.5	+39.1	+44.5
Philadelphia	135.2	135.3	123.9	95.0	93.0	- .1	+ 9.1	+42.3	+45.4
Pittsburgh	137.4	137.8	125.9	98.0	92.5	- .3	+ 9.1	+40.2	+48.5
Rochester	132.1	133.1	125.2	99.9	92.3	- .8	+ 5.5	+32.2	+43.1
Scranton	137.2	137.5	125.6	97.5	92.1	- .2	+ 9.2	+40.7	+49.0
East North Central:									
Chicago	137.0	136.4	124.9	98.2	92.3	+ .4	+ 9.7	+39.5	+48.4
Cincinnati	136.2	137.6	126.9	96.5	90.4	- 1.0	+ 7.3	+41.1	+50.7
Cleveland	143.9	145.2	127.3	99.2	93.6	- .9	+13.0	+45.1	+53.7
Columbus, Ohio	130.9	131.6	119.6	93.4	88.1	- .5	+ 9.4	+40.1	+48.6
Detroit	133.6	134.8	124.7	97.0	90.6	- .9	+ 7.1	+37.7	+47.5
Indianapolis	134.6	135.1	127.1	98.2	90.7	- .4	+ 5.9	+37.1	+48.4
Milwaukee	133.6	134.4	121.0	95.9	91.1	- .6	+10.4	+39.3	+46.7
Peoria	140.6	141.2	130.7	99.0	93.4	- .4	+ 7.6	+42.0	+50.5
Springfield, Ill.	141.6	142.1	130.2	96.2	94.1	- .4	+ 8.8	+47.2	+50.5
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids 4/	136.1	138.0	121.2	95.9	--	- 1.4	+12.3	+41.9	--
Kansas City	132.6	131.7	120.7	92.4	91.5	+ .7	+ 9.9	+43.5	+44.9
Minneapolis	130.4	130.4	123.3	99.0	95.0	0	+ 5.8	+31.7	+37.3
Omaha	131.6	130.8	123.2	97.9	92.3	+ .6	+ 6.8	+34.4	+42.6
St. Louis	139.1	140.2	126.7	99.2	93.8	- .8	+ 9.8	+40.2	+48.3
St. Paul	128.7	128.9	120.8	98.6	94.3	- .2	+ 6.5	+30.5	+36.5
Wichita 4/	146.8	146.2	132.0	97.2	--	+ .4	+11.2	+51.0	--

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

4/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from August 1939
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Sept. 14	Aug. 17	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15	Aug. 17	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	2/1943	1943	1942	1941	1939	1943	1942	1941	1939
						to Sept. 14 1943	to Sept. 14 1943	to Sept. 14 1943	to Sept. 14 1943
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	139.9	139.2	125.9	94.3	92.5	+ .5	+11.1	+48.4	+51.2
Baltimore	145.3	145.2	131.2	97.9	94.7	+ .1	+10.7	+48.4	+53.4
Charleston, S.C.	136.4	136.5	126.6	95.9	95.1	- .1	+ 7.7	+42.2	+43.4
Jacksonville	150.0	150.9	134.2	98.8	95.8	- .6	+11.8	+51.8	+56.6
Norfolk 5/	149.7	151.1	131.9	95.8	93.6	- .9	+13.5	+56.3	+59.9
Richmond	136.7	137.0	126.2	93.7	92.2	- .2	+ 8.3	+45.9	+48.3
Savannah	152.5	152.4	133.3	100.5	96.7	+ .1	+14.4	+51.7	+57.7
Washington, D.C.	138.5	138.5	128.1	97.7	94.1	0	+ 8.1	+41.8	+47.2
Winston-Salem 4/	138.6	138.3	119.8	93.7	--	+ .2	+15.7	+47.9	--
East South Central:									
Birmingham	142.9	141.3	125.3	96.0	90.7	+ 1.1	+14.0	+48.9	+57.6
Jackson 4/	148.7	151.5	141.0	105.3	--	- 1.8	+ 5.5	+41.2	--
Knoxville 4/	157.9	156.2	134.2	97.1	--	+ 1.1	+17.7	+62.6	--
Louisville	134.9	134.7	124.2	95.5	92.1	+ .1	+ 8.6	+41.3	+46.5
Memphis	148.2	148.0	129.7	94.2	89.7	+ .1	+14.3	+57.3	+65.2
Mobile	147.9	149.7	133.9	97.9	95.5	- 1.2	+10.5	+51.1	+54.9
West South Central:									
Dallas	134.8	135.4	123.7	92.6	91.7	- .4	+ 9.0	+45.6	+47.0
Houston	138.7	136.2	130.8	102.6	97.8	+ 1.8	+ 6.0	+35.2	+41.8
Little Rock	135.0	137.6	129.2	95.6	94.0	- 1.9	+ 4.5	+42.2	+43.6
New Orleans	151.7	153.3	135.9	101.9	97.6	- 1.0	+11.6	+48.9	+55.4
Mountain:									
Butte	136.0	137.2	124.6	98.7	94.1	- .9	+ 9.1	+37.8	+44.5
Denver	134.8	134.5	126.8	94.8	92.7	+ .2	+ 6.3	+42.2	+45.4
Salt Lake City	138.6	139.5	130.1	97.5	94.6	- .6	+ 6.5	+42.2	+46.5
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	141.8	141.1	137.9	101.8	94.6	+ .5	+ 2.8	+39.3	+49.9
Portland, Oreg.	144.8	144.7	141.2	101.7	96.1	+ .1	+ 2.5	+42.4	+50.7
San Francisco	139.9	137.3	133.5	99.6	93.8	+ 1.9	+ 4.8	+40.5	+49.1
Seattle	142.4	139.8	137.3	101.0	94.5	+ 1.9	+ 3.7	+41.0	+50.7

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

4/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

5/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

For release

Tuesday, November 23, 1943

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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Un 375c

Prices and Cost of Living Branch

COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD

October 1943

Retail prices as measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics' cost of living index for large cities rose 0.4 percent from mid-September to mid-October, due largely to increases in the price of eggs, clothing, and miscellaneous goods and services, Secretary of Labor Perkins reported today. "An increase of 0.6 percent in food prices over the month was due largely to a 7 percent seasonal rise for eggs," she said. "Current OPA regulations provide for lower egg prices from November 8 on, with continuing decreases until early in March. In the aggregate the cost of all other foods was unchanged between September 14 and October 19. There were further advances in prices for some housefurnishings. In New York and Seattle, there were adjustments to higher ceiling prices for coal.

"This increase brings the rise in retail prices in the two months between August 15 and October 15 to 0.8 percent, as compared with a drop of 1.4 percent from the middle of May to the middle of August. On October 15, the index of living costs stood at 124.4 as compared with 100 in the average for the years, 1935-39, 0.6 percent below the level of May 15, 1943, before prices of butter and meat were lowered by the subsidy. The index is now 5.6 percent higher than September of last year, 7.2 percent higher than in May, 1942, and 23.4 percent above the level of January, 1941, the base date of the Little Steel formula.

"There was a considerable variation in the changes in different cities over the month. Total living costs in Birmingham declined 0.2 percent and in San Francisco rose 1 percent. The range of changes in food costs was from a decrease of 2.6 percent in Memphis to an increase of 1.8 percent in San Francisco, while total clothing costs were unchanged in Detroit and Philadelphia and rose 1.2 percent in San Francisco. The index for miscellaneous goods and services showed no change in four cities and advanced 1.3 percent in Kansas City.

"Meats and fish rose $\frac{1}{2}$ of one percent as fresh and frozen fish prices increased over 4 percent, and beef edged up slightly. Increased marketing of hogs brought prices of all the pork cuts included in the index down slightly, except salt pork. A fractional decline was reported for roasting chickens.

"Prices of potatoes rose in 21 of the 56 cities, resulting in a small increase in the over-all average and reversing the usual seasonal trend. Prices of cabbage, onions, spinach, and sweetpotatoes followed the usual patterns, with decreases ranging from 6.1 percent for cabbage to 19.2 percent for spinach. Carrots rose more than usual at this time of year (6.7 percent), while fresh apples declined by 0.9 percent. The supply of oranges in retail markets was smaller in October than in September, but the average price remained unchanged over the month.

"Higher retail prices for ready-to-wear articles allowed under the 'cost plus margin' regulations are reflected in higher clothing costs for October. Almost all the types of clothing which are priced for the index were higher.

"Costs of miscellaneous goods and services rose 0.5 percent from September 15 to October 15. Increases were reported in medical services, such as charges for hospital care, obstetrical services, and prescriptions for medicine. Laundry prices and motion picture admissions continued to advance."

Table 1.

Report for October 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
October 15	119.0	129.6	125.9	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.8
1943: September 15	123.9	137.4	132.5	108.0	107.7	126.3	117.0
October 15	124.4	138.2	133.0	<u>1</u> /	107.9	126.5	117.6

Table 1a

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent ^{2/}	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
September 15, 1943 to October 15, 1943	+0.4	+0.6	+0.4	<u>1</u> /	+0.2	+0.2	+0.5
October 15, 1942 to October 15, 1943	+4.5	+6.6	+5.6	0	+1.6	+2.3	+5.2
September 15, 1942 to October 15, 1943	+5.6	+9.2	+5.7	0	+1.6	+2.3	+5.6
May 15, 1942 to October 15, 1943	+7.2	+13.7	+5.4	-1.7	+2.9	+3.5	+6.0
January 15, 1941 to October 15, 1943	+23.4	+41.3	+32.1	+2.9	+7.0	+26.4	+15.4
August 15, 1939 to October 15, 1943	+26.2	+47.8	+32.6	+3.5	+10.7	+25.7	+17.1

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

¹/Rents surveyed at quarterly dates: March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

²/Changes through September 15, 1943.

Table 2

Report for October 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change between September 15, 1943 and October 15, 1943 by Groups *

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel electricity and ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
Average: Large Cities	+0.4 <u>1/</u>	+0.6 <u>2/</u>	+0.4 <u>3/</u>	+0.2 <u>4/</u>	+0.2 <u>3/</u>	+0.5 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	+0.9	+1.6	+0.5	0	+0.1	+0.8
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	+0.5	+0.9	+0.2	0	-0.1	+0.5
New York	+0.3	+0.2	+0.9	+1.0	+0.1	+0.3
Philadelphia	+0.7	+1.4	0	0	+0.1	+0.8
Pittsburgh	+0.3	+0.6	+0.6	0	+0.2	+0.1
East North Central:						
Chicago	+0.1	-0.3	+0.2	0	0	+0.7
Cincinnati	+0.1	-0.1	+0.3	0	0	+0.6
Cleveland	+0.1	0	+0.1	0	+0.6	+0.3
Detroit	+0.4	+0.7	0	0	+0.6	+0.6
West North Central:						
Kansas City	+0.4	0	+0.8	0	0	+1.3
Minneapolis	+0.6	+1.5	+0.1	0	0	0
St. Louis	0	0	+0.2	0	+0.1	0
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	+0.6	+1.2	+0.2	0	+0.1	+0.3
Savannah	-0.1	-0.2	+0.2	0	0	0
Washington, D. C.	+0.6	+1.2	+0.1	0	0	+0.3
East South Central:						
Birmingham	-0.2	-0.3	+0.4	0	0	0
West South Central:						
Houston	-0.1	-0.2	+0.1	0	0	+0.1
Mountain:						
Denver	+0.2	+0.4	+0.1	0	0	+0.3
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	+0.6	+1.1	+0.4	0	0	+0.7
San Francisco	+1.0	+1.8	+1.2	0	0	+0.2
Seattle	+0.3	+0.3	+0.2	+0.3	+0.7	+0.6

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates, March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15.

2/ Based on data for 56 cities. Collected on Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

Table 3

Report for October 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and Other Specified Periods*

City and Area	Oct. 15, 1942 to Oct. 15, 1943	Aug. 15, 1939 to Oct. 15, 1943	Jan. 1, 1941 to Oct. 15, 1943	May 15, 1942 to Oct. 15, 1943	Sept. 15, 1942 to Oct. 15, 1943
Average: U. S.	+4.5	+26.2	+23.4	+7.2	+5.6
New England:					
Boston	+3.1	+25.1	+22.6	+7.1	+4.6
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+3.4	+28.0	+23.7	+4.6	+4.6
New York	+6.0	+25.7	+23.2	+9.8	+7.0
Philadelphia	+5.0	+26.4	+24.6	+7.8	+5.7
Pittsburgh	+5.1	+26.8	+23.3	+7.8	+6.2
East North Central:					
Chicago	+4.1	+25.4	+22.3	+6.3	+5.5
Cincinnati	+3.9	+27.2	+24.3	+6.8	+4.9
Cleveland	+5.8	+28.4	+25.9	+8.1	+7.4
Detroit	+4.2	+26.8	+23.7	+5.1	+5.5
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+4.6	+23.5	+23.8	+6.7	+6.2
Minneapolis	+3.1	+22.1	+19.5	+5.0	+4.2
St. Louis	+4.0	+25.0	+21.4	+6.1	+5.1
South Atlantic:					
Baltimore	+5.2	+28.4	+25.8	+7.2	+5.8
Savannah	+7.1	+33.3	+30.6	+9.5	+8.4
Washington, D. C.	+5.5	+26.0	+24.3	+8.3	+6.1
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+6.2	+29.2	+25.3	+7.2	+7.2
West South Central:					
Houston	+3.8	+22.4	+20.9	+6.1	+4.5
Mountain:					
Denver	+3.5	+23.6	+21.9	+5.4	+4.0
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+2.9	+25.6	+23.1	+6.9	+3.7
San Francisco	+4.2	+27.7	+24.6	+7.8	+4.9
Seattle	+3.4	+27.8	+25.6	+5.6	+4.5

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 4.

Report for October 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	124.4 ^{1/}	138.2 ^{2/}	133.0 ^{3/}	107.9 ^{4/}	126.5 ^{3/}	117.6 ^{3/}
New England:						
Boston	121.5	133.1	129.5	118.4	121.6	114.4
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	126.1	138.5	132.4	104.8	126.7	122.3
New York	124.4	138.7	136.4	111.8	120.6	117.4
Philadelphia	123.6	137.1	131.4	105.8	124.7	116.2
Pittsburgh	124.8	138.2	141.2	110.3	125.7	115.9
East North Central:						
Chicago	123.8	136.6	128.6	103.2	120.9	116.1
Cincinnati	123.8	136.1	135.6	103.8	131.3	117.5
Cleveland	123.4	143.9	136.3	113.5	126.8	117.7
Detroit	124.9	134.5	132.4	108.8	124.8	123.2
West North Central:						
Kansas City	121.8	134.6	130.8	108.1	120.8	118.7
Minneapolis	121.7	133.3	129.8	102.5	125.5	118.9
St. Louis	122.6	139.1	133.3	106.2	117.3	112.9
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	126.7	147.0	132.6	106.8	130.5	114.9
Savannah	122.4	152.2	134.5	113.5	121.8	123.8
Washington, D. C.	124.2	140.2	141.2	106.6	132.2	121.4
East South Central:						
Birmingham	127.3	141.8	133.0	102.4	121.8	117.6
West South Central:						
Houston	123.3	138.4	134.5	89.2	123.2	118.6
Mountain:						
Denver	121.9	135.3	126.0	101.3	122.0	116.5
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	126.2	143.3	134.0	94.2	119.1	120.0
San Francisco	126.8	142.4	131.6	92.1	118.9	124.6
Seattle	128.2	142.6	133.5	102.7	122.2	127.2

* These indexes are based on the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities

^{1/} Rents surveyed at quarterly dates, March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15

^{2/} Based on prices for 56 cities collected on the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth

^{3/} Based on data for 21 cities

^{4/} Based on data for 34 cities

Table 5 -- Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined, 1/

Indexes, 1935-39=100

Commodity Group	1943		1942		1941	1939
	2/Oct. 19	Sept. 14	Oct. 13	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All Foods	138.2	137.4	129.6	126.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	108.3	108.2	105.7	105.4	94.9	93.4
Meats	130.6	129.9	131.2	130.6	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	119.9	118.9	126.5	126.0	109.4	99.6
Pork	113.5	114.0	124.4	124.0	86.1	88.0
Lamb	134.9	134.9	133.0	133.7	98.7	98.8
Chickens	147.0	147.5	133.0	133.7	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	216.5	208.5	172.8	168.2	118.7	99.6
Dairy Products	133.5	3/133.5	131.2	127.7	105.1	93.1
Eggs	190.1	177.5	164.7	155.2	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	166.4	167.0	137.1	129.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	174.9	175.8	139.3	130.3	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.0	130.0	125.0	123.8	91.4	91.6
Dried	161.5	3/159.6	149.9	143.4	99.6	90.3
Beverages	125.2	3/125.2	124.1	123.8	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	126.5	126.5	121.2	120.7	80.3	84.5
Sugar and Sweets	126.8	126.8	126.9	127.0	95.3	95.6

Table 5-A -- Percent Change

Commodity Group	Sept. 14	Oct. 13	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1943	1942	1942	1941	1939
	to	to	to	to	to
	Oct. 19	Oct. 19	Oct. 19	Oct. 19	Oct. 19
	1943	1943	1943	1943	1943
All Foods	+0.6	+ 6.6	+ 9.2	+41.3	+ 47.8
Cereals and bakery products	+ .1	+ 2.5	+ 2.8	+14.1	+ 16.0
Meats	+ .5	- .5	0	+29.2	+ 36.5
Beef and veal	+ .8	- 5.2	- 4.8	+ 9.6	+ 20.4
Pork	- .4	- 8.8	- 8.5	+31.8	+ 29.0
Lamb	0	+ 1.4	+ .9	+36.7	+ 36.5
Chickens	- .3	+10.5	+ 9.9	+51.2	+ 55.4
Fish, fresh and canned	+3.8	+25.3	+28.7	+82.4	+117.4
Dairy Products	0	+ 3.8	+ 4.5	+27.0	+ 43.4
Eggs	+7.1	+15.4	+22.5	+95.2	+109.6
Fruits and vegetables	- .4	+21.4	+28.3	+78.3	+ 80.1
Fresh	- .5	+25.6	+34.2	+87.3	+ 88.5
Canned	0	+ 4.0	+ 5.0	+42.2	+ 41.9
Dried	+1.2	+ 7.7	+12.6	+62.1	+ 78.8
Beverages	0	+ .9	+ 1.1	+37.7	+ 31.9
Fats and oils	0	+ 4.4	+ 4.8	+57.5	+ 49.7
Sugar and Sweets	0	- .1	- .2	+33.1	+ 32.6

1/ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 50 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - September 14, 1943 to October 19, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
United States	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.5	0.0	+ 7.1	- 0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
New England:									
Boston	+ 1.6	0	+ 1.0	- .2	+ 6.8	+ 4.2	- .3	- .6	+ .1
Bridgeport	+ .8	0	+ .3	+ .2	+ 2.5	+ 2.4	- .1	- .2	+ .1
Fall River	+ 1.3	- .1	+ 1.7	- .1	+ 8.6	+ 1.0	- .4	0	- .2
Manchester	+ .4	+ .3	+ .6	- .2	+ 7.2	- .8	- .2	- .3	- 1.3
New Haven	+ 1.5	+ .2	+ 1.0	+ .3	+ 7.0	+ 2.3	- .2	+ .1	- .1
Portland, Me.	+ 1.2	+ .3	+ 3.3	- .1	+ 7.7	- 1.3	+ .1	- .4	+ 1.5
Providence	+ 1.0	+ .1	+ 1.5	- .1	+ 8.2	+ .4	+ .2	- .2	- .2
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	+ .9	+ .1	- .7	+ .1	+ 9.2	+ 2.2	0	- .3	- .9
Newark	+ .9	- .3	- 1.5	+ .1	+ 6.2	+ 3.7	+ .2	+ .5	+ .2
New York	+ .2	- .2	- .1	+ .1	+ 7.0	- 1.3	- .2	+ .1	+ .2
Philadelphia	+ 1.4	+ .2	+ 1.7	0	+ 6.4	+ 1.4	- .2	- .6	- .5
Pittsburgh	+ .6	+ .3	+ .2	- .1	+ 7.3	- .1	- .1	- .1	- .2
Rochester	+ .8	+ .2	+ .3	+ .4	+ 8.1	- .7	- .3	- .3	- .5
Scranton	+ 1.1	- .5	0	+ .2	+ 7.8	+ 2.3	+ .1	- .8	+ 1.5
East North Central:									
Chicago	- .3	0	- .4	- .3	+ 5.8	- 1.9	- .1	- .1	+ .2
Cincinnati	- .1	- .4	+ .4	+ .1	+ 8.2	- 2.3	- .6	- .1	+ 1.4
Cleveland	0	- .2	+ .2	0	+ 9.0	- 2.1	- .1	- .1	- .1
Columbus, Ohio	+ .6	- .1	+ .3	+ .1	+ 9.8	- 2.6	- .7	+ 1.3	+ 1.2
Detroit	+ .7	0	+ .2	- .1	+ 7.0	+ .5	+ .2	+ .1	+ .3
Indianapolis	+ .6	+ .3	+ .8	0	+ 6.9	- .8	0	- .4	+ .2
Milwaukee	+ 1.3	+ .4	+ 1.1	- .1	+ 8.8	+ 1.6	0	+ .1	+ .8
Peoria	+ .5	+ .2	+ .8	+ .1	+ 7.2	- .8	+ .2	+ .3	+ 1.0
Springfield, Ill.	0	+ .4	+ .6	0	+ 9.4	- 2.9	- .5	- .1	+ .3
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	+ 1.4	+ .3	- .3	+ 5.3	+ 5.6	- .1	- .6	0	+ .2
Kansas City	0	0	+ .7	0	+ 4.6	- 2.8	+ 1.3	+ .4	- .6
Minneapolis	+ 1.5	+ .1	+ .1	+ .1	+ 8.4	+ 3.5	+ .6	- .1	- .2
Omaha	+ .7	+ .1	+ .5	0	+ 5.3	+ .9	- .4	- .1	- .7
St. Louis	0	+ .1	+ .2	0	+ 8.8	- 2.5	- .2	- .2	0
St. Paul	+ 1.4	+ .1	- .1	+ .2	+ 10.2	+ 2.8	- .1	- .7	+ .2
Wichita	- .7	+ .2	+ .7	0	+ 3.7	- 5.1	- .9	+ .7	- .3

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods, (Cont'd.)

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - September 14, 1943 to October 19, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	+ 0.3	+ 1.9	+ 0.8	- 0.1	+ 6.2	- 3.2	- 0.2	- 0.4	0.0
Baltimore	+ 1.2	0	+ 1.2	0	+ 7.4	+ 1.1	- .6	+ .2	- 1.2
Charleston, S.C.	+ .5	0	+ .8	+ .1	+ 7.9	- 1.0	+ .1	+ .3	- .2
Jacksonville	- 2.1	+ .1	- 1.0	- .2	+ 8.8	- 9.8	- .2	+ .1	0
Norfolk	- .9	- .3	- .9	- .9	+ 8.0	- 4.2	- .2	+ .1	+ .2
Richmond	+ .3	0	+ .7	- .5	+ 7.6	- 3.0	- .2	+ .1	0
Savannah	- .2	+ .9	+ .6	- .6	+ 5.5	- 3.5	- .1	+ .5	- 1.3
Washington, D.C.	+ 1.2	+ .1	+ 4.2	- .1	+ 7.3	- 1.2	- .2	- .2	- .3
Winston-Salem	+ .6	- .1	+ 2.4	- .1	+ 8.5	- 3.7	+ .1	+ .3	+ .2
East South Central:									
Birmingham	- .8	- 1.1	+ .6	- .1	+ 6.6	- 6.8	0	+ .4	- .5
Jackson	- .8	- .6	- 1.9	0	+ 6.4	- 1.8	- .6	- 2.0	- .1
Knoxville	- .3	+ .5	+ .1	- .1	+ 9.3	- 4.3	0	- .5	- .3
Louisville	+ .1	+ .3	+ .9	- .1	+ 6.3	- 3.9	+ .3	+ .5	+ .1
Memphis	- 2.6	- .1	- .1	+ .1	+ 6.3	- 11.3	+ .9	0	- 1.4
Mobile	- .3	+ .1	0	0	+ 7.2	- 3.2	- .1	+ .1	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	+ 1.7	+ .7	+ 2.8	+ .1	+ 5.9	+ 1.8	- .2	+ .5	+ 2.3
Houston	- .2	+ .3	+ .5	+ .5	+ 6.3	- 4.3	+ .4	+ .3	+ .2
Little Rock	- 1.2	- .2	+ .7	0	+ 7.1	- 8.2	+ .2	- .2	0
New Orleans	+ .3	+ .2	+ .5	- .1	+ 7.2	- 1.5	+ .7	- .2	0
Mountain:									
Butte	+ .4	0	+ .6	0	+ 7.8	- .9	+ .8	+ .7	- 2.5
Denver	+ .4	+ .4	- .6	0	+ 7.6	+ .3	0	- .3	- .1
Salt Lake City	+ 1.4	+ .6	+ 1.2	- .1	+ 7.9	+ 1.7	+ .3	0	0
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	+ 1.1	+ .2	+ 1.3	+ .1	+ 6.0	+ .8	+ .3	- .1	0
Portland, Oreg.	- .1	- .1	- .9	0	+ 7.7	- 2.3	- .1	- .2	0
San Francisco	+ 1.8	+ .2	+ .1	0	+ 8.6	+ 3.2	+ .1	- .1	- .3
Seattle	+ .3	+ .1	- .1	0	+ 6.9	- 1.3	+ .3	0	- 2.2

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change				
		Sept. 14 1943 to Oct. 19 1943	Oct. 13 1942 to Oct. 19 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to Oct. 19 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to Oct. 19 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to Oct. 19 1943
	Cents					
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:						
Cereals:						
Flour, wheat 10 lb.	62.6	+ 0.8	+ 13.2	+ 15.3	+ 51.2	+ 74.9
Macaroni lb.	15.6	- .6	+ 10.6	+ 10.6	+ 13.0	+ 11.4
*Wheat cereal 28 oz.	23.4	0	- 2.5	- 2.5	- .4	- 3.3
Corn flakes 8 oz.	6.6	0	- 5.7	- 5.7	- 7.0	- 5.7
Corn meal lb.	5.9	0	+ 15.7	+ 18.0	+ 40.5	+ 47.5
*Rice "	12.7	0	+ 1.6	+ 1.6	+ 60.8	+ 69.3
Rolled oats "	8.7	0	0	0	+ 22.5	+ 22.5
*Flour, pancake 20 oz.	11.6	+ 9.4	1/	1/	1/	1/
Bakery products:						
Bread, white lb.	8.9	0	+ 2.3	+ 2.3	+ 14.1	+ 14.1
Bread, whole wheat "	9.8	+ 1.0	+ 2.1	+ 3.2	+ 12.6	+ 11.4
Bread, rye "	10.1	0	+ 4.1	+ 4.1	+ 12.2	+ 9.8
Vanilla cookies "	28.5	- 1.0	+ 6.3	+ 5.6	+ 13.5	2/
Soda crackers "	18.5	0	+ 11.4	+ 11.4	+ 23.3	+ 25.0
MEATS:						
Beef:						
Round steak lb.	41.9	+ 1.0	- 5.8	- 5.2	+ 8.5	+ 15.1
Rib roast "	34.0	+ .6	- 2.3	- 2.0	+ 7.9	+ 17.6
Chuck roast "	29.2	+ .7	- 3.3	- 2.7	+ 15.9	+ 29.8
*Stew meat "	31.1	+ .6	1/	1/	1/	1/
Liver "	37.0	+ 1.9	1/	1/	1/	1/
Hamburger "	28.7	+ .7	1/	1/	1/	1/
Veal:						
Cutlets "	46.3	+ 1.1	- 16.0	- 15.7	+ 2.4	+ 8.9
*Roast, boned and rolled "	36.7	+ 4.3	1/	1/	1/	1/
Pork:						
Chops "	37.7	- .5	- 12.5	- 12.5	+ 29.6	+ 22.0
Bacon, sliced "	41.8	- .5	+ 1.2	+ 2.2	+ 38.9	+ 37.5
Ham, sliced "	51.8	- .8	- 13.2	- 13.1	+ 14.9	+ 11.6
Ham, whole "	35.7	- .8	- 7.0	- 6.8	+ 36.3	+ 30.3
Salt pork "	22.7	0	- 4.6	- 4.6	+ 35.9	+ 47.4
*Liver "	22.2	0	1/	1/	1/	1/
*Sausage "	38.3	+ .3	1/	1/	1/	1/
*Bologna, big "	34.6	+ .3	1/	1/	1/	1/
Lamb:						
Leg "	40.4	+ .5	+ 6.3	+ 6.6	+ 45.3	+ 46.4
Rib chops "	45.8	- .4	- 1.3	- 2.8	+ 30.9	+ 24.8

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change				
		Sept. 14 1943 to Oct. 19 1943.	Oct. 13 1942 to Oct. 19 1943.	Sept. 15 1942 to Oct. 19 1943.	Jan. 14 1941 to Oct. 19 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to Oct. 19 1943
		Cents				
MEATS: (Continued)						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens 2/ lb.	44.1	- 0.3	+ 10.5	+ 9.9	+ 51.2	+ 55.4
Fish:						
Fish (fresh, frozen) 2/ "	1/	+ 4.4	+ 28.0	+ 32.4	+ 88.8	+ 122.8
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.5	- .4	+ 6.8	+ 7.8	+ 49.7	+ 83.6
*Salmon, red "	41.3	- 1.0	+ 1.5	+ 1.7	+ 56.4	+ 78.8
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter lb.	50.5	0	- 6.5	- .2	+ 32.9	+ 64.5
Cheese "	35.9	- 3.0	0	+ 4.7	+ 33.0	+ 45.3
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.5	0	+ 3.3	+ 3.3	+ 19.2	+ 29.2
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.4	0	+ 6.7	+ 6.7	+ 21.0	+ 30.9
Milk, fresh (average) "	15.1	0	+ 4.1	+ 4.1	+ 18.9	+ 29.1
Milk, evaporated 14½ oz. can	10.0	- 1.0	+ 8.7	+ 12.4	+ 40.8	+ 49.3
EGGS:						
Eggs, fresh 2/ doz.	67.2	+ 7.1	+ 15.4	+ 22.5	+ 95.2	+ 109.6
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits and vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples lb.	10.6	- .9	+ 71.0	+ 71.0	+ 103.8	+ 140.9
Bananas "	12.3	0	+ 15.0	+ 19.4	+ 86.4	+ 101.6
Oranges doz.	51.8	0	+ 16.4	+ 32.5	+ 89.7	+ 64.4
*Grapefruit ea.	10.0	- 1.0	- 1.0	+ 6.4	3/	3/
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green lb.	17.7	+ 15.7	+ 6.0	+ 52.6	+ 26.4	+ 145.8
Cabbage "	4.6	- 6.1	+ 21.1	+ 17.9	+ 35.3	+ 17.9
Carrots bunch	9.6	+ 6.7	+ 18.5	+ 39.1	+ 60.0	+ 108.7
Lettuce head	13.1	0	- 5.8	+ 4.8	+ 56.0	+ 56.0
Onions lb.	6.8	- 6.8	+ 44.7	+ 51.1	+ 88.9	+ 88.9
Potatoes 15 lb.	61.0	+ .7	+ 19.4	+ 26.3	+ 108.9	+ 77.3
Spinach lb.	10.1	- 19.2	+ 4.1	- 5.6	+ 38.4	+ 29.5
Sweetpotatoes "	8.3	- 18.6	+ 48.2	+ 29.7	+ 66.0	+ 50.9
*Beets bunch	8.0	- 3.6	4/	4/	4/	4/
Canned fruits and vegetables:						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches #2½ can	26.4	- 1.1	+ 7.3	+ 10.0	+ 60.0	+ 54.4
Pineapple "	27.9	- .4	- 2.4	- 1.4	+ 33.5	+ 32.9
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	0	+ 10.8	+ 16.1	3/	3/

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd.)

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change				
		Sept. 14 1943 to Oct. 19 1943	Oct. 13 1942 to Oct. 19 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to Oct. 19 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to Oct. 19 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to Oct. 19 1943
Cents						
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd.)						
Canned vegetables:						
Beans, green #2 can	14.5	- 0.7	+ 5.8	+ 5.8	+ 45.0	+ 45.0
Corn "	14.1	+ .7	+ 5.2	+ 6.0	+ 31.8	+ 35.6
Peas "	14.5	+ .7	- .7	- .7	+ 9.8	+ 6.6
Tomatoes "	12.4	- .8	+ 6.0	+ 6.9	+ 47.6	+ 44.2
*Soup, vegetable 1 loz. can	12.7	- .8	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits and vegetables:						
Dried fruits:						
Prunes lb.	16.6	+ .6	+ 4.4	+ 12.2	+ 72.9	+ 88.6
Dried vegetables:						
Navy beans lb.	10.3	+ 1.0	+ 12.0	+ 13.2	+ 58.5	+ 77.6
*Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle oz.	3.7	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:						
Coffee lb.	29.9	- .3	+ 6.0	+ 4.2	+ 44.4	+ 34.1
Tea $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	23.6	+ .4	+ 6.3	+ 5.4	+ 34.1	+ 37.2
*Cocoa $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	9.2	+ 1.1	- 13.2	- 9.8	+ 1.1	+ 7.0
FATS AND OILS:						
Lard lb.	18.9	0	+ 9.2	+ 9.2	+ 103.2	+ 90.9
Shortening other than lard:						
In cartons lb.	20.1	+ .5	+ 3.1	+ 3.1	+ 77.9	+ 71.8
In other containers "	24.9	+ .4	+ 2.5	+ 2.0	+ 36.1	+ 23.3
Salad dressing pt.	25.5	+ .8	+ 1.2	+ 1.2	+ 26.9	<u>2/</u>
Oleomargarine lb.	24.0	0	+ 6.7	+ 7.1	+ 53.8	+ 45.5
Peanut butter "	33.4	0	+ 18.4	+ 20.1	+ 86.6	+ 86.6
*Oil, cooking or salad pt.	30.6	+ .3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:						
Sugar lb.	6.8	0	0	- 1.4	+ 33.3	+ 30.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.9	0	+ 4.6	+ 5.3	+ 16.9	+ 16.1
*Molasses 18 oz.	15.8	- .6	+ 5.3	+ 6.0	+ 17.9	+ 16.2
*Apple butter 16 oz.	13.0	- 1.5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Oct. 19	Sept. 14	Oct. 13	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Sept. 14	Oct. 13	Sept. 15	Jan. 14
	2/1943	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943 to Oct. 19 1943	1942 to Oct. 19 1943	1942 to Oct. 19 1943	1941 to Oct. 19 1943
United States	138.2	137.4	129.6	126.6	97.8	+ 0.6	+ 6.6	+ 9.2	+41.3
New England:									
Boston	133.1	131.0	128.5	124.4	95.2	+ 1.6	+ 3.6	+ 7.0	+39.8
Bridgeport	137.1	136.0	128.6	127.1	96.5	+ .8	+ 6.6	+ 7.9	+42.1
Fall River	135.2	133.4	128.3	125.7	97.5	+ 1.3	+ 5.4	+ 7.6	+38.7
Manchester	134.5	133.9	128.8	126.8	96.6	+ .4	+ 4.4	+ 6.1	+39.2
New Haven	138.6	136.6	128.6	126.2	95.7	+ 1.5	+ 7.8	+ 9.8	+44.8
Portland, Me.	134.3	132.7	128.5	125.8	95.3	+ 1.2	+ 4.5	+ 6.8	+40.9
Providence	136.9	135.5	128.9	126.3	96.3	+ 1.0	+ 6.2	+ 8.4	+42.2
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	138.5	137.3	131.8	127.6	100.2	+ .9	+ 5.1	+ 8.5	+38.2
Newark	140.8	139.6	130.3	128.0	98.8	+ .9	+ 8.1	+10.0	+42.5
New York	138.7	138.4	128.0	125.2	99.5	+ .2	+ 8.4	+10.8	+39.4
Philadelphia	137.1	135.2	125.8	123.9	95.0	+ 1.4	+ 9.0	+10.7	+44.3
Pittsburgh	138.2	137.4	129.4	125.9	98.0	+ .6	+ 6.8	+ 9.8	+41.0
Rochester	133.1	132.1	128.2	125.2	99.9	+ .8	+ 3.8	+ 6.3	+33.2
Scranton	138.7	137.2	129.0	125.6	97.5	+ 1.1	+ 7.5	+10.4	+42.3
East North Central:									
Chicago	136.6	137.0	128.9	124.9	98.2	- .3	+ 6.0	+ 9.4	+39.1
Cincinnati	136.1	136.2	130.1	126.9	96.5	- .1	+ 4.6	+ 7.2	+41.0
Cleveland	143.9	143.9	131.8	127.3	99.2	0	+ 9.2	+13.0	+45.1
Columbus, Ohio	131.7	130.9	122.7	119.6	93.4	+ .6	+ 7.3	+10.1	+41.0
Detroit	134.5	133.6	128.2	124.7	97.0	+ .7	+ 4.9	+ 7.9	+38.7
Indianapolis	135.4	134.6	129.2	127.1	98.2	+ .6	+ 4.8	+ 6.5	+37.9
Milwaukee	135.4	133.6	125.2	121.0	95.9	+ 1.3	+ 8.1	+11.9	+41.2
Peoria	141.3	140.6	135.2	130.7	99.0	+ .5	+ 4.5	+ 8.1	+42.7
Springfield, Ill.	141.6	141.6	133.1	130.2	96.2	0	+ 6.4	+ 8.8	+47.2
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids 3/	138.0	136.1	123.1	121.2	95.9	+ 1.4	+12.1	+13.9	+43.9
Kansas City	132.6	132.6	124.0	120.7	92.4	0	+ 6.9	+ 9.9	+43.5
Minneapolis	132.3	130.4	126.6	123.3	99.0	+ 1.5	+ 4.5	+ 7.3	+33.6
Omaha	132.5	131.6	127.1	123.2	97.9	+ .7	+ 4.2	+ 7.5	+35.3
St. Louis	139.1	139.1	129.9	126.7	99.2	0	+ 7.1	+ 9.8	+40.2
St. Paul	130.5	128.7	125.8	120.8	98.6	+ 1.4	+ 3.7	+ 8.0	+32.4
Wichita 3/	145.8	146.8	136.3	132.0	97.2	- .7	+ 7.0	+10.5	+50.0

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities (Cont'd.) 1/

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Oct. 19	Sept. 14	Oct. 13	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Sept. 14	Oct. 13	Sept. 15	Jan. 14
	2/1943	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943	1942	1942	1941
						to Oct. 19 1943	to Oct. 19 1943	to Oct. 19 1943	to Oct. 19 1943
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	140.3	139.9	129.0	125.9	94.3	+ 0.3	+ 8.8	+11.4	+48.8
Baltimore	147.0	145.3	133.8	131.2	97.9	+ 1.2	+ 9.9	+12.0	+50.2
Charleston, S.C.	137.1	136.4	127.7	126.6	95.9	+ .5	+ 7.4	+ 8.3	+43.0
Jacksonville	146.8	150.0	137.7	134.2	98.8	- 2.1	+ 6.6	+ 9.4	+48.6
Norfolk <u>4/</u>	148.3	149.7	134.0	131.9	95.8	- .9	+10.7	+12.4	+54.8
Richmond	137.1	136.7	128.2	126.2	93.7	+ .3	+ 6.9	+ 8.6	+46.3
Savannah	152.2	152.5	137.1	133.3	100.5	- .2	+11.0	+14.2	+51.4
Washington, D.C.	140.2	138.5	129.5	128.1	97.7	+ 1.2	+ 8.3	+ 9.4	+43.5
Winston-Salem <u>3/</u>	139.4	138.6	122.5	119.8	93.7	+ .6	+13.8	+16.4	+48.8
East South Central :									
Birmingham	141.8	142.9	128.1	125.3	96.0	- .8	+10.7	+13.2	+47.7
Jackson <u>3/</u>	147.5	148.7	143.7	141.0	105.3	- .8	+ 2.6	+ 4.6	+40.1
Knoxville <u>3/</u>	157.5	157.9	134.9	134.2	97.1	- .3	+16.8	+17.4	+62.2
Louisville	135.0	134.9	126.9	124.2	95.5	+ .1	+ 6.4	+ 8.7	+41.4
Memphis	144.4	148.2	132.6	129.7	94.2	- 2.6	+ 8.9	+11.3	+53.3
Mobile	147.5	147.9	136.8	133.9	97.9	- .3	+ 7.8	+10.2	+50.7
West South Central:									
Dallas	137.1	134.8	126.1	123.7	92.6	+ 1.7	+ 8.7	+10.8	+48.1
Houston	138.4	138.7	132.9	130.8	102.6	- .2	+ 4.1	+ 5.8	+34.9
Little Rock	133.4	135.0	130.5	129.2	95.6	- 1.2	+ 2.2	+ 3.3	+39.5
New Orleans	152.1	151.7	141.4	135.9	101.9	+ .3	+ 7.6	+11.9	+49.3
Mountain:									
Butte	136.5	136.0	129.5	124.6	98.7	+ .4	+ 5.4	+ 9.6	+38.3
Denver	135.3	134.8	128.4	126.8	94.8	+ .4	+ 5.4	+ 6.7	+42.7
Salt Lake City	140.5	138.6	134.0	130.1	97.5	+ 1.4	+ 4.9	+ 8.0	+44.1
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	143.3	141.8	140.0	137.9	101.8	+ 1.1	+ 2.4	+ 3.9	+40.8
Portland, Oreg.	144.6	144.8	142.2	141.2	101.7	- .1	+ 1.7	+ 2.4	+42.2
San Francisco	142.4	139.9	134.6	133.5	99.6	+ 1.8	+ 5.8	+ 6.7	+43.0
Seattle	142.8	142.4	139.6	137.3	101.0	+ .3	+ 2.3	+ 4.0	+41.4

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

4/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

For release

Thursday, December 16, 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington, D. C.

338

Am 375c

cap. 1

Prices and Cost of Living Branch
COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD
November 1943

Prices paid by city workers for goods and services that they commonly buy decreased slightly from mid-October to mid-November, Secretary of Labor Perkins reported today.

"The 0.2 percent decline was caused by an 0.7 percent decrease in the total food bill resulting mainly from seasonally lower prices for the new crop of Florida oranges and for some winter vegetables in most of the nation's grocery stores," she said. "The cost of living, which includes rent, the cost of clothing and housefurnishings as well as other items in the family budget, was 3.6 percent higher than in November of last year and 23 percent higher than in January 1941. Foods cost 4.7 percent more than in November 1942 and 40 percent more than in January 1941.

"The decrease in food prices from October to November was chiefly due to lower prices of fresh fruits and vegetables, with seasonal declines for oranges, spinach, and cabbage, and a 3.8 percent drop in prices of apples which usually rise at this season. Prices of pork and beef declined slightly and ration point values were lowered with increased marketings of hogs and relaxed restrictions on cattle slaughtering.

"The average price of peanut butter went down 2.4 cents per pound as the first effects of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ cent per pound subsidy at the processors' level were felt. Prices of fresh fish rose 3.8 percent and there were seasonal increases for green beans and sweetpotatoes, and for onions, of which the supply is very limited. White potato prices rose much less than usual at this time of year. Prices of dairy products were generally stable except in Denver where a municipal sales tax of two cents per quart on fresh milk resulted in a rise in food costs for that city of 1.1 percent.

"Although retail food prices declined in a majority of large cities, there were scattered increases. Advances were reported in large West Coast cities due primarily to seasonally higher prices for California oranges. Prices of apples and the winter vegetables were also generally higher there, contrary to the trend in other parts of the country.

"Clothing and housefurnishings costs remained unchanged on the average, following the establishment of prices for the autumn season in September and October. Shortages of all types of children's wear, particularly shoes, continued to be reported, and stocks of men's white shirts, the perennial Christmas gift, were generally low.

"Fuel prices rose slightly (0.1 percent) because of higher winter gas rates and adjustments to new ceilings for anthracite coal in New York, and higher prices for wood in several cities.

"Costs of miscellaneous goods and services that go into the family budget rose 0.1 percent. In St. Louis, where the rise was 1.3 percent, a cigarette sales tax of two cents per package was put into effect on October 23. Other scattered changes reflected the continued upward trend in the charges for personal services such as haircuts, beauty shop and laundry services."

Table 1

Report for November 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
November 15	119.8	131.1	125.9	108.0	106.2	123.7	112.7
1943: October 15	124.4	138.2	133.0	<u>1/</u>	107.9	126.5	117.6
November 15	124.1	137.3	133.0	<u>1/</u>	108.0	126.5	117.7

Table 1a.

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent ^{2/}	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
October 15, 1943 to November 15, 1943	-0.2	-0.7	0	<u>1/</u>	+0.1	0	+0.1
November 15, 1942 to November 15, 1943	+3.6	+4.7	+5.6	0	+1.7	+2.3	+4.4
September 15, 1942 to November 15, 1943	+5.3	+8.5	+5.7	0	+1.7	+2.3	+5.7
May 15, 1942 to November 15, 1943	+7.0	+12.9	+5.4	-1.7	+3.0	+3.5	+6.1
January 15, 1941 to November 15, 1943	+23.1	+40.4	+32.1	+2.9	+7.1	+26.4	+15.5
August 15, 1939 to November 15, 1943	+25.9	+46.8	+32.6	+3.5	+10.8	+25.7	+17.2

*These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates: March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

2/ Changes through September 15, 1943.

Table 2.

Report for November 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change between October 15, 1943 and November 15, 1943 by Groups *

City and Area	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	-0.2 <u>1/</u>	-0.7 <u>2/</u>	0 <u>3/</u>	+0.1 <u>4/</u>	0 <u>3/</u>	+0.1 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	-0.6	-1.3	0	0	0	0
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	-0.2	-0.5	0	0	0	0
New York	+0.2	+0.4	0	+0.8	0	0
Philadelphia	-0.6	-1.2	0	0	0	0
Pittsburgh	-0.1	-0.1	0	0	0	0
East North Central:						
Chicago	-0.8	-2.0	0	0	0	+0.1
Cincinnati	-0.3	-0.9	0	0	0	+0.2
Cleveland	+0.2	-0.6	0	0	0	0
Detroit	-0.3	-0.9	+0.1	0	-0.2	0
West North Central:						
Kansas City	0	+0.1	0	0	0	0
Minneapolis	0	-0.1	0	0	0	0
St. Louis	+0.2	-0.3	0	0	0	+1.3
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	-1.3	-3.1	+0.1	0	0	0
Savannah	-0.5	-1.2	0	0	0	0
Washington, D. C.	-0.6	-1.9	0	+0.2	0	0
East South Central:						
Birmingham	0	-0.1	0	+0.1	0	0
West South Central:						
Houston	-0.2	-1.1	+0.1	+0.9	0	0
Mountain:						
Denver	+0.5	+1.1	0	0	0	0
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	+0.3	+0.8	0	0	0	+0.2
San Francisco	+0.4	+0.9	0	0	0	0
Seattle	+0.2	+0.6	0	0	0	0

* These percent changes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates, March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

2/ Based on data for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

Table 3.

Report for November 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 15, 1939, January 1, 1941 and Other Specified Periods

City and Area	Nov. 15, 1942 to Nov. 15, 1943	Aug. 15, 1939 to Nov. 15, 1943	Jan. 1, 1941 to Nov. 15, 1943	May 15, 1942 to Nov. 15, 1943	Sep. 15, 1941 to Nov. 15, 1943
Average: Large Cities	+3.6	+25.9	+23.1	+7.0	+5.3
New England:					
Boston	+1.7	+24.4	+21.9	+6.5	+4.0
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+2.3	+27.7	+23.5	+4.4	+4.4
New York	+5.2	+26.0	+23.5	+10.1	+7.2
Philadelphia	+3.5	+25.7	+23.9	+7.1	+5.1
Pittsburgh	+4.6	+26.7	+23.2	+7.7	+6.1
East North Central:					
Chicago	+2.8	+24.4	+21.3	+5.4	+4.7
Cincinnati	+3.2	+26.8	+23.9	+6.5	+4.6
Cleveland	+5.0	+28.1	+25.6	+7.8	+7.1
Detroit	+3.2	+26.4	+23.3	+4.8	+5.2
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+4.1	+23.5	+23.8	+6.7	+6.2
Minneapolis	+2.4	+22.1	+19.5	+5.0	+4.2
St. Louis	+3.7	+25.2	+21.6	+6.2	+5.3
South Atlantic:					
Baltimore	+3.4	+26.6	+24.1	+5.8	+4.3
Savannah	+6.7	+32.6	+29.9	+8.9	+7.9
Washington, D. C.	+4.4	+25.2	+23.5	+7.6	+5.4
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+6.2	+29.2	+25.3	+7.2	+7.2
West South Central:					
Houston	+3.5	+22.1	+20.6	+5.9	+4.2
Mountain:					
Denver	+3.4	+24.2	+22.5	+6.0	+4.5
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+2.6	+26.0	+23.5	+7.2	+4.0
San Francisco	+3.0	+28.2	+25.0	+8.2	+5.3
Seattle	+3.0	+28.1	+25.9	+6.0	+4.7

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 4.

Report for November 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	124.1 <u>1/</u>	137.3 <u>2/</u>	133.0 <u>3/</u>	108.0 <u>4/</u>	126.5 <u>3/</u>	117.7 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	120.8	131.4	129.5	118.4	121.6	114.4
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	125.8	137.8	132.4	104.8	126.7	122.3
New York	124.7	139.3	136.4	112.7	120.6	117.4
Philadelphia	122.9	135.4	131.4	105.8	124.7	116.2
Pittsburgh	124.7	138.0	141.2	110.3	125.7	115.9
East North Central:						
Chicago	122.8	133.9	128.6	103.2	120.9	116.2
Cincinnati	123.4	134.9	135.6	103.8	131.3	117.7
Cleveland	128.1	143.1	136.3	113.5	126.8	117.7
Detroit	124.5	133.3	132.5	108.8	124.6	123.2
West North Central:						
Kansas City	121.8	132.7	130.8	108.1	120.8	118.7
Minneapolis	121.7	132.2	129.8	102.5	125.5	118.9
St. Louis	122.8	138.7	133.3	106.2	117.7	114.4
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	125.0	142.4	132.7	106.8	130.5	114.9
Savannah	131.7	150.4	134.5	113.5	121.8	123.8
Washington, D. C.	123.4	137.5	141.2	106.8	132.2	121.4
East South Central:						
Birmingham	127.3	141.7	133.0	102.5	121.8	117.6
West South Central:						
Houston	123.0	136.9	134.6	90.0	123.2	118.6
Mountain:						
Denver	122.5	136.8	126.0	101.3	122.0	116.5
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	126.6	144.4	134.0	94.2	119.1	120.2
San Francisco	127.3	143.7	131.6	92.1	118.9	124.6
Seattle	128.5	143.6	133.5	102.7	122.2	127.2

* These indexes are based on the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates; March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

Table 5 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined 1/

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity Group	1943		1942		1941	1939
	2/ Nov. 16	Oct. 19	Nov. 17	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All Foods	137.3	138.2	131.1	126.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	108.3	108.3	105.7	105.4	94.9	93.4
Meats	130.4	130.6	131.9	130.6	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	119.0	119.9	126.6	126.0	109.4	99.6
Pork	113.3	113.5	124.8	124.0	86.1	88.0
Lamb	133.5	134.9	134.0	133.7	98.7	98.8
Chickens	146.5	147.0	133.5	133.7	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	223.6	216.5	177.9	168.2	118.7	99.6
Dairy Products	133.5	133.5	131.8	127.7	105.1	93.1
Eggs	190.8	190.1	166.3	155.2	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	162.6	166.4	141.5	129.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	170.1	174.9	144.6	130.3	93.4	92.8
Canned	129.9	130.0	126.8	123.8	91.4	91.6
Dried	162.5	161.5	149.7	143.4	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.8	3/125.1	124.6	123.8	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	125.0	126.5	124.2	120.7	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	126.6	126.8	127.0	127.0	95.3	95.6

Table 5-A - Percent Change

Commodity Group	Oct. 19	Nov. 17	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1943	1942	1942	1941	1939
	to	to	to	to	to
	Nov. 16	Nov. 16	Nov. 16	Nov. 16	Nov. 16
	1943	1943	1943	1943	1943
All Foods	- 0.7	+ 4.7	+ 8.5	+40.4	+ 46.8
Cereals and bakery products	0	+ 2.5	+ 2.8	+14.1	+ 16.0
Meats	- .2	- 1.1	- .2	+29.0	+ 36.3
Beef and veal	- .8	- 6.0	- 5.6	+ 8.8	+ 19.5
Pork	- .2	- 9.2	- 8.6	+31.6	+ 28.8
Lamb	- 1.0	- .4	- .1	+35.3	+ 35.1
Chickens	- .3	+ 9.7	+ 9.6	+50.7	+ 54.9
Fish, fresh and canned	+ 3.3	+25.7	+32.9	+88.4	+124.5
Dairy Products	0	+ 1.3	+ 4.5	+27.0	+ 43.4
Eggs	+ .4	+14.7	+22.9	+95.9	+110.4
Fruits and vegetables	- 2.3	+14.9	+25.4	+74.3	+ 76.0
Fresh	- 2.7	+17.6	+30.5	+82.1	+ 83.3
Canned	- .1	+ 2.4	+ 4.9	+42.1	+ 41.8
Dried	+ .6	+ 8.6	+13.3	+63.2	+ 80.0
Beverages	- .2	+ .2	+ .8	+37.3	+ 31.5
Fats and oils	- 1.2	+ .6	+ 3.6	+55.7	+ 47.9
Sugar and sweets	- .2	- .3	- .3	+32.8	+ 32.4

1/ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - October 19, 1943 to November 16, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
United States	- 0.7	0.0	- 0.2	0.0	+ 0.4	- 2.3	- 0.2	- 1.1	- 0.2
New England:									
Boston	- 1.3	- .1	- .7	+ .1	- .8	- 4.6	- .1	- 1.3	0
Bridgeport	- .3	- .1	+ .4	- .1	+ 2.6	- 2.5	- 1.3	- 1.4	- .2
Fall River	- 1.5	- .1	- 3.5	- .3	- 1.8	- .8	- .7	- 1.9	+ .9
Manchester	- .5	- .4	- 2.0	+ .1	- .7	+ .9	- .5	- 2.2	- .4
New Haven	- 1.1	- .3	- .4	- .2	- .2	- 3.3	- .8	- 1.6	0
Portland, Me.	+ .1	- .3	- .3	- .2	+ 1.1	+ 1.0	- .5	- .3	0
Providence	- .5	- .1	- .8	+ .3	+ 2.8	- 2.3	- .7	- 1.1	+ 1.2
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	- .5	+ .3	+ .1	+ .1	+ .5	- 2.7	- 1.0	- 1.1	+ .8
Newark	- .9	0	- .4	- .2	+ 1.6	- 3.4	- 1.0	- 1.3	0
New York	+ .4	0	+ 1.1	0	+ .2	+ .6	- .4	- .5	0
Philadelphia	- 1.2	+ .2	- 1.3	- .2	- .3	- 3.5	+ .4	- .6	- .1
Pittsburgh	- .1	+ .5	- .7	- .4	+ .1	+ .3	- .2	- 1.5	0
Rochester	- .5	0	+ .5	0	+ .2	- 3.8	+ .2	- 2.0	0
Scranton	- 1.2	- .3	- .7	- .6	+ 1.0	- 3.7	- 1.2	- 3.1	0
East North Central:									
Chicago	- 2.0	- .1	- .5	+ .2	0	- 7.0	- .1	- 1.8	- .2
Cincinnati	- .9	+ .3	0	- .1	+ 1.0	- 3.7	- .2	- .8	- .2
Cleveland	- .6	- .1	- .2	- 1.0	+ .3	- 1.1	- .4	- 1.0	- .3
Columbus, Ohio	0	0	- .3	0	+ 1.3	+ .3	+ .3	- .8	- 2.7
Detroit	- .9	+ .2	- .2	+ .2	+ 1.2	- 3.8	- .6	- 2.0	- .6
Indianapolis	- 1.0	- .1	- .4	- .2	+ 1.8	- 4.0	- .5	- 1.9	- .3
Milwaukee	- 1.0	+ .1	- .2	- .2	+ .8	- 4.5	- .3	- 1.1	- .2
Peoria	+ .1	- .3	+ .2	- .1	+ 3.3	0	0	- 1.1	+ .1
Springfield, Ill.	- .5	+ .2	- .1	- .1	+ 1.6	- 1.9	+ .1	- 1.1	- .5
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	+ .7	+ .2	+ .2	+ .4	+ 5.3	+ 1.0	0	- 1.3	- .1
Kansas City	+ .1	+ .2	+ .3	0	+ 1.5	- .2	0	- 2.4	- .2
Minneapolis	- .1	+ .1	- .2	+ 1.1	+ 1.8	- 2.0	- .6	- 1.2	- .5
Omaha	- .5	+ .1	+ .2	- .1	+ 3.7	- 3.3	0	- 2.1	+ .1
St. Louis	- .3	- .1	- .3	- .2	+ 1.8	- .9	- .5	- .3	- .1
St. Paul	+ .6	0	+ .2	+ .5	+ .9	+ 2.1	0	- .8	- .6
Wichita	+ .6	- .1	- .1	0	+ 3.0	+ 2.0	- .5	- 1.4	0

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods, (Cont'd)

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - October 19, 1943 to November 16, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	- 2.0	- 0.3	- 0.9	- 0.1	- 2.2	- 7.5	+ 0.1	- 1.5	+ 0.1
Baltimore	- 3.1	+ .1	- .9	- .2	+ .6	-10.1	- 1.0	- 1.1	+ .1
Charleston, S.C.	- 1.7	+ .8	- .5	- .2	- .3	- 7.2	0	- .7	- .2
Jacksonville	- 1.3	+ .3	- 1.0	- .2	+ .3	- 4.3	+ .1	- .4	- .1
Norfolk	- 2.4	- .3	+ 1.3	- .3	- .9	-11.5	- .7	- .4	+ .1
Richmond	- .4	- .1	+ .9	- .1	+ 1.1	- 3.4	- 1.1	- 1.4	0
Savannah	- 1.2	+ .2	0	+ .1	+ 2.6	- 6.3	- .2	- .9	- .2
Washington, D.C.	- 1.9	- .3	+ 1.9	- .1	+ .1	- 8.1	- .7	- .7	- .2
Winston-Salem	- .9	+ .2	- .4	- .6	+ 2.3	- 4.1	+ .1	- .5	0
East South Central:									
Birmingham	- .1	- .4	+ .6	+ .3	+ 1.1	- 1.2	- .7	- 1.3	+ .2
Jackson	- 1.2	- .5	- .5	0	+ 1.9	- 3.8	- .1	- 2.6	- 2.1
Knoxville	+ .4	- .2	+ .2	0	+ 5.9	- .2	0	- .8	- 1.1
Louisville	- .6	0	- .5	- .1	+ .9	- 1.6	- 1.0	- 2.7	0
Memphis	- .3	- .1	0	- .3	- .1	- 1.0	+ .6	- 1.2	+ .1
Mobile	- 1.4	+ .8	- .1	0	+ 2.3	- 8.5	- .1	- .1	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	- .8	+ .3	- .3	- .1	- .3	- 2.9	+ .2	- .3	0
Houston	- 1.1	+ .1	- 1.3	- 1.5	+ 1.6	- 2.4	- .2	- .5	+ .3
Little Rock	+ .8	+ .2	- .2	+ .1	+ 1.5	+ 3.7	0	- .4	- .2
New Orleans	- 1.4	+ .7	- 1.3	- .1	+ .6	- 5.1	- .7	- .2	0
Mountain:									
Butte	+ .3	- .3	+ .6	0	+ 2.0	- .2	- .2	+ .5	- .8
Denver	+ 1.1	+ .3	0	+ 9.3	- .1	- 1.3	- .3	- .4	- 1.3
Salt Lake City	+ 1.5	- .2	+ .3	- .1	- .7	+ 6.1	0	+ .2	+ .8
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	+ .8	+ .1	- 1.1	- .2	- .5	+ 3.9	+ .2	- 1.7	- .2
Portland, Oreg.	+ .3	0	+ .3	0	+ .4	+ 1.0	+ .6	- 1.2	- .1
San Francisco	+ .9	0	+ .8	+ .4	+ .4	+ 2.6	+ .7	- .7	- .9
Seattle	+ .6	- .1	+ .8	- .2	- .7	+ 2.4	- .1	- .3	0

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change					
		Oct. 19	Nov. 17	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15	
		1943 to Nov. 16 1943	1942 to Nov. 16 1943	1942 to Nov. 16 1943	1941 to Nov. 16 1943	1939 to Nov. 16 1943	
Cents							
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	63.0	+ 0.6	+13.7	+16.0	+52.2	+76.0
Macaroni	lb.	15.6	0	+10.6	+10.6	+13.0	+11.4
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.3	- .4	- 3.3	- 2.9	- .9	- 3.7
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.6	0	- 5.7	- 5.7	- 7.0	- 5.7
Corn meal	lb.	5.9	0	+15.7	+18.0	+40.5	+47.5
*Rice	"	12.8	+ .8	+ 1.6	+ 2.4	+62.0	+70.7
Rolled oats	"	8.7	0	- 1.1	0	+22.5	+22.5
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	11.4	- 1.7	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.9	0	+ 2.3	+ 2.3	+14.1	+14.1
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.8	0	+ 2.1	+ 3.2	+12.6	+11.4
Bread, rye	"	10.1	0	+ 4.1	+ 4.1	+12.2	+ 9.8
Vanilla cookies	"	28.4	- .4	+ 7.2	+ 5.2	+13.1	<u>2/</u>
Soda crackers	"	18.7	+ 1.1	+12.7	+12.7	+24.7	+26.4
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	41.9	0	- 5.8	- 5.2	+ 8.5	+15.1
Rib roast	"	33.8	- .6	- 2.6	- 2.6	+ 7.3	+17.0
Chuck roast	"	29.0	- .7	- 4.0	- 3.3	+15.1	+28.9
*Stew meat	"	31.3	+ .6	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver	"	36.9	- .3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Hamburger	"	28.5	- .7	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	45.9	- .9	-16.7	-16.4	+ 1.5	+ 8.0
*Roast, boned and rolled	"	36.2	- 1.4	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:							
Chops	"	37.7	0	-12.3	-12.5	+29.6	+22.0
Bacon, sliced	"	41.5	- .7	+ 1.7	+ 1.5	+37.9	+36.5
Ham, sliced	"	51.7	- .2	-13.4	-13.3	+14.6	+11.4
Ham, whole	"	35.8	+ .3	- 7.0	- 6.5	+36.6	+30.7
Salt pork	"	22.8	+ .4	- 3.0	- 4.2	+36.5	+48.1
*Liver	"	22.2	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage	"	38.5	+ .5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologna, big	"	34.5	- .3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:							
Leg	"	40.2	- .5	+ 4.7	+ 6.1	+44.6	+45.7
Rib chops	"	45.3	- 1.1	- 2.6	- 3.8	+29.4	+23.4

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.
 1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.
 2/ Not available.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change				
		Oct. 19 1943 to Nov. 16 1943	Nov. 17 1942 to Nov. 16 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to Nov. 16 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to Nov. 16 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to Nov. 16 1943
		Cents				
MEATS: (Continued)						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens 2/ lb.	44.0	- 0.3	+ 9.7	+ 9.6	+50.7	+54.9
Fish:						
Fish (fresh, frozen) 2/ lb.	1/	+ 3.8	+28.7	+37.4	+96.0	+131.3
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.5	0	+ 5.9	+ 7.8	+49.7	+83.6
*Salmon, red "	41.2	- .2	+ 1.5	+ 1.5	+56.1	+78.4
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter lb.	50.3	- .4	- 7.9	- .6	+32.4	+63.8
Cheese "	35.9	0	- .6	+ 4.7	+33.0	+45.3
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	+ .6	+ 3.3	+ 4.0	+20.0	+30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.4	0	+ 6.7	+ 6.7	+21.0	+30.9
Milk, fresh (average) "	15.2	+ .7	+ 4.8	+ 4.8	+19.7	+29.9
Milk, evaporated 14 1/2 oz. can	10.0	0	+ 8.7	+12.4	+40.8	+49.3
EGGS:						
Eggs, fresh 2/ doz.	67.4	+ .4	+14.7	+22.9	+95.9	+110.4
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits and vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples lb.	10.2	- 3.8	+52.2	+64.5	+96.2	+131.8
Bananas "	12.2	- .8	+14.0	+18.4	+84.8	+100.0
Oranges doz.	45.7	-11.8	+ 1.6	+16.9	+67.4	+45.1
*Grapefruit ea.	9.4	- 6.0	+38.2	0	3/	3/
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green lb.	18.5	+ 4.5	+ 5.1	+59.5	+32.1	+156.9
Cabbage "	4.5	- 2.2	+25.0	+15.4	+32.4	+15.4
Carrots bunch	9.8	+ 2.1	0	+42.0	+63.3	+113.0
Lettuce head	13.0	- .8	-12.8	+ 4.0	+54.8	+54.8
Onions lb.	7.1	+ 4.4	+51.1	+57.8	+97.2	+97.2
Potatoes 15 lb.	61.6	+ 1.0	+19.4	+27.5	+111.0	+79.1
Spinach lb.	9.6	- 5.0	-18.6	-10.3	+31.5	+23.1
Sweetpotatoes "	8.9	+ 7.2	+71.2	+39.1	+78.0	+61.8
*Beets bunch	8.7	+ 8.8	4/	4/	4/	4/
Canned fruits and vegetables:						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches #2 1/2 can	26.4	0	+ 5.6	+10.0	+60.0	+54.4
Pineapple "	27.9	0	- 4.1	- 1.4	+33.5	+32.9
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	0	+ 9.9	+16.1	3/	3/

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change					
		Oct. 19 1943 to Nov. 16 1943	Nov. 17 1942 to Nov. 16 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to Nov. 16 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to Nov. 16 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to Nov. 16 1943	
		Cents					
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:(Cont'd)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green #2 can	14.4	- 0.7	+ 3.6	+ 5.1	+44.0	+44.0	
Corn "	14.2	+ .7	+ 4.4	+ 6.8	+32.7	+36.5	
Peas "	14.5	0	- 1.4	- .7	+ 9.8	+ 6.6	
Tomatoes "	12.3	- .8	+ 3.4	+ 6.0	+46.4	+43.0	
*Soup,vegetable 11 oz. can	12.9	+ 1.6	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	
Dried fruits and vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes lb.	16.7	+ .6	+ 5.7	+12.8	+74.0	+89.8	
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans lb.	10.5	+ 1.9	+14.1	+15.4	+61.5	+81.0	
*Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle oz.	3.7	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee lb.	29.8	- .3	+ 6.0	+ 3.8	+44.0	+33.6	
Tea $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	23.6	+ .9	+ 7.8	+ 5.4	+34.1	+37.2	
*Cocoa $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	9.5	+ 3.3	- 6.9	- 6.9	+ 4.4	+10.5	
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard lb.	18.9	0	+ 2.7	+ 9.2	+103.2	+90.9	
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons lb.	20.0	- .5	+ 2.0	+ 2.6	+77.0	+70.9	
In other containers "	24.9	0	+ 2.0	+ 2.0	+36.1	+23.3	
Salad dressing pt.	25.4	- .4	+ 1.2	+ .8	+26.4	<u>2/</u>	
Oleomargarine lb.	24.0	0	+ 6.7	+ 7.1	+53.8	+45.5	
Peanut butter "	31.0	- 7.2	+ 6.9	+11.5	+73.2	+73.2	
*Oil, cooking or salad pt.	30.7	+ .3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar lb.	6.8	0	- 1.4	- 1.4	+33.3	+30.8	
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.9	0	+ 3.9	+ 5.3	+16.9	+16.1	
*Molasses 18 oz.	15.9	+ .6	+ 5.3	+ 6.7	+18.7	+16.9	
*Apple butter 16 oz.	13.2	+ 1.5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Nov.16	Oct.19	Nov.17	Sept.15	Jan.14	Oct.19	Nov.17	Sept.15	Jan.14
	2/1943	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943	1942	1942	1941
						to	to	to	to
						Nov.16	Nov.16	Nov.16	Nov.16
						1943	1943	1943	1943
United States	137.3	138.2	131.1	126.6	97.8	- 0.7	+ 4.7	+ 8.5	+40.4
New England:									
Boston	131.4	133.1	130.4	124.4	95.2	- 1.3	+ .8	+ 5.6	+38.0
Bridgeport	136.7	137.1	130.1	127.1	96.5	- .3	+ 5.1	+ 7.6	+41.7
Fall River	133.2	135.2	130.6	125.7	97.5	- 1.5	+ 2.0	+ 6.0	+36.6
Manchester	133.8	134.5	130.0	126.8	96.6	- .5	+ 2.9	+ 5.5	+38.5
New Haven	137.1	138.6	130.3	126.2	95.7	- 1.1	+ 5.2	+ 8.6	+43.3
Portland, Me.	134.5	134.3	130.0	125.8	95.3	+ .1	+ 3.5	+ 6.9	+41.1
Providence	136.2	136.9	129.7	126.3	96.3	- .5	+ 5.0	+ 7.8	+41.4
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	137.8	138.5	133.7	127.6	100.2	- .5	+ 3.1	+ 8.0	+37.5
Newark	139.5	140.8	133.6	128.0	98.8	- .9	+ 4.4	+ 9.0	+41.2
New York	139.3	138.7	130.2	125.2	99.5	+ .4	+ 7.0	+11.3	+40.0
Philadelphia	135.4	137.1	128.2	123.9	95.0	- 1.2	+ 5.6	+ 9.3	+42.5
Pittsburgh	138.0	138.2	129.6	125.9	98.0	- .1	+ 6.5	+ 9.6	+40.8
Rochester	132.4	133.1	129.2	125.2	99.9	- .5	+ 2.5	+ 5.8	+32.5
Scranton	137.0	138.7	130.3	125.6	97.5	- 1.2	+ 5.1	+ 9.1	+40.5
East North Central:									
Chicago	133.9	136.6	129.9	124.9	98.2	- 2.0	+ 3.1	+ 7.2	+36.4
Cincinnati	134.9	136.1	130.6	126.9	96.5	- .9	+ 3.3	+ 6.3	+39.8
Cleveland	143.1	143.9	132.5	127.3	99.2	- .6	+ 8.0	+12.4	+44.3
Columbus, Ohio	131.7	131.7	124.4	119.6	93.4	0.	+ 5.9	+10.1	+41.0
Detroit	133.3	134.5	129.6	124.7	97.0	- .9	+ 2.9	+ 6.9	+37.4
Indianapolis	134.0	135.4	129.7	127.1	98.2	- 1.0	+ 3.3	+ 5.4	+36.5
Milwaukee	134.0	135.4	126.8	121.0	95.9	- 1.0	+ 5.7	+10.7	+39.7
Peoria	141.5	141.3	134.6	130.7	99.0	+ .1	+ 5.1	+ 8.3	+42.9
Springfield, Ill.	140.9	141.6	134.3	130.2	96.2	- .5	+ 4.9	+ 8.2	+46.5
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids 3/	139.0	138.0	125.6	121.2	95.9	+ .7	+10.7	+14.7	+44.9
Kansas City	132.7	132.6	125.0	120.7	92.4	+ .1	+ 6.2	+ 9.9	+43.6
Minneapolis	132.2	132.3	128.9	123.3	99.0	- .1	+ 2.6	+ 7.2	+33.5
Omaha	131.8	132.5	127.0	123.2	97.9	- .5	+ 3.8	+ 7.0	+34.6
St. Louis	138.7	139.1	130.8	126.7	99.2	- .3	+ 6.0	+ 9.5	+39.8
St. Paul	131.3	130.5	127.1	120.8	98.6	+ .6	+ 3.3	+ 8.7	+33.2
Wichita 3/	146.7	145.8	136.6	132.0	97.2	+ .6	+ 7.4	+11.1	+50.9

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Nov.16	Oct.19	Nov.17	Sept.15	Jan.14	Oct.19	Nov.17	Sept.15	Jan.14
	2/1943	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943 to Nov.16 1943	1942 to Nov.16 1943	1942 to Nov.16 1943	1941 to Nov.16 1943
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	137.5	140.3	129.2	125.9	94.3	- 2.0	+ 6.4	+ 9.2	+45.8
Baltimore	142.4	147.0	134.9	131.2	97.9	- 3.1	+ 5.6	+ 8.5	+45.5
Charleston, S.C.	134.8	137.1	127.6	126.6	95.9	- 1.7	+ 5.6	+ 6.5	+40.6
Jacksonville	144.9	146.8	137.1	134.2	98.8	- 1.3	+ 5.7	+ 8.0	+46.7
Norfolk <u>4/</u>	144.8	148.3	135.4	131.9	95.8	- 2.4	+ 6.9	+ 9.8	+51.1
Richmond	136.5	137.1	128.9	126.8	93.7	- .4	+ 5.9	+ 8.2	+45.7
Savannah	150.4	152.2	136.0	133.3	100.5	- 1.2	+10.6	+12.8	+49.7
Washington, D.C.	137.5	140.2	130.5	128.1	97.7	- 1.9	+ 5.4	+ 7.3	+40.7
Winston-Salem <u>3/</u>	138.2	139.4	124.1	119.8	93.7	- .9	+11.4	+15.4	+47.5
East South Central:									
Birmingham	141.7	141.8	127.7	125.3	96.0	- .1	+11.0	+13.1	+47.6
Jackson <u>3/</u>	145.8	148.7	144.1	141.0	105.3	- 1.2	+ 1.2	+ 3.4	+38.5
Knoxville <u>3/</u>	158.8	158.2	136.1	134.2	97.1	+ .4	+16.7	+18.3	+63.5
Louisville	134.2	135.0	126.5	124.2	95.5	- .6	+ 6.1	+ 8.1	+40.5
Memphis	143.9	144.4	134.4	129.7	94.2	- .3	+ 7.1	+10.9	+52.8
Mobile	145.4	147.5	137.6	133.9	97.9	- 1.4	+ 5.7	+ 8.6	+48.5
West South Central:									
Dallas	136.0	137.1	125.1	123.7	92.6	- .8	+ 8.7	+ 9.9	+46.9
Houston	136.9	138.4	132.4	130.8	102.6	- 1.1	+ 3.4	+ 4.7	+33.4
Little Rock	134.5	133.4	130.3	129.2	95.6	+ .8	+ 3.2	+ 4.1	+40.7
New Orleans	149.9	152.1	140.7	135.9	101.9	- 1.4	+ 6.5	+10.3	+47.1
Mountain:									
Butte	136.9	136.5	131.3	124.6	98.7	+ .3	+ 4.3	+ 9.9	+38.7
Denver	136.8	135.3	129.9	126.8	94.8	+ 1.1	+ 5.3	+ 7.9	+44.3
Salt Lake City	142.6	140.5	136.1	130.1	97.5	+ 1.5	+ 4.8	+ 9.6	+46.3
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	144.4	143.3	141.5	137.9	101.8	+ .8	+ 2.0	+ 4.7	+41.8
Portland, Oreg.	145.0	144.6	143.0	141.2	101.7	+ .3	+ 1.4	+ 2.7	+42.6
San Francisco	143.7	142.4	139.3	133.5	99.6	+ .9	+ 3.2	+ 7.6	+44.3
Seattle	143.6	142.8	141.3	137.3	101.0	+ .6	+ 1.6	+ 4.6	+42.2

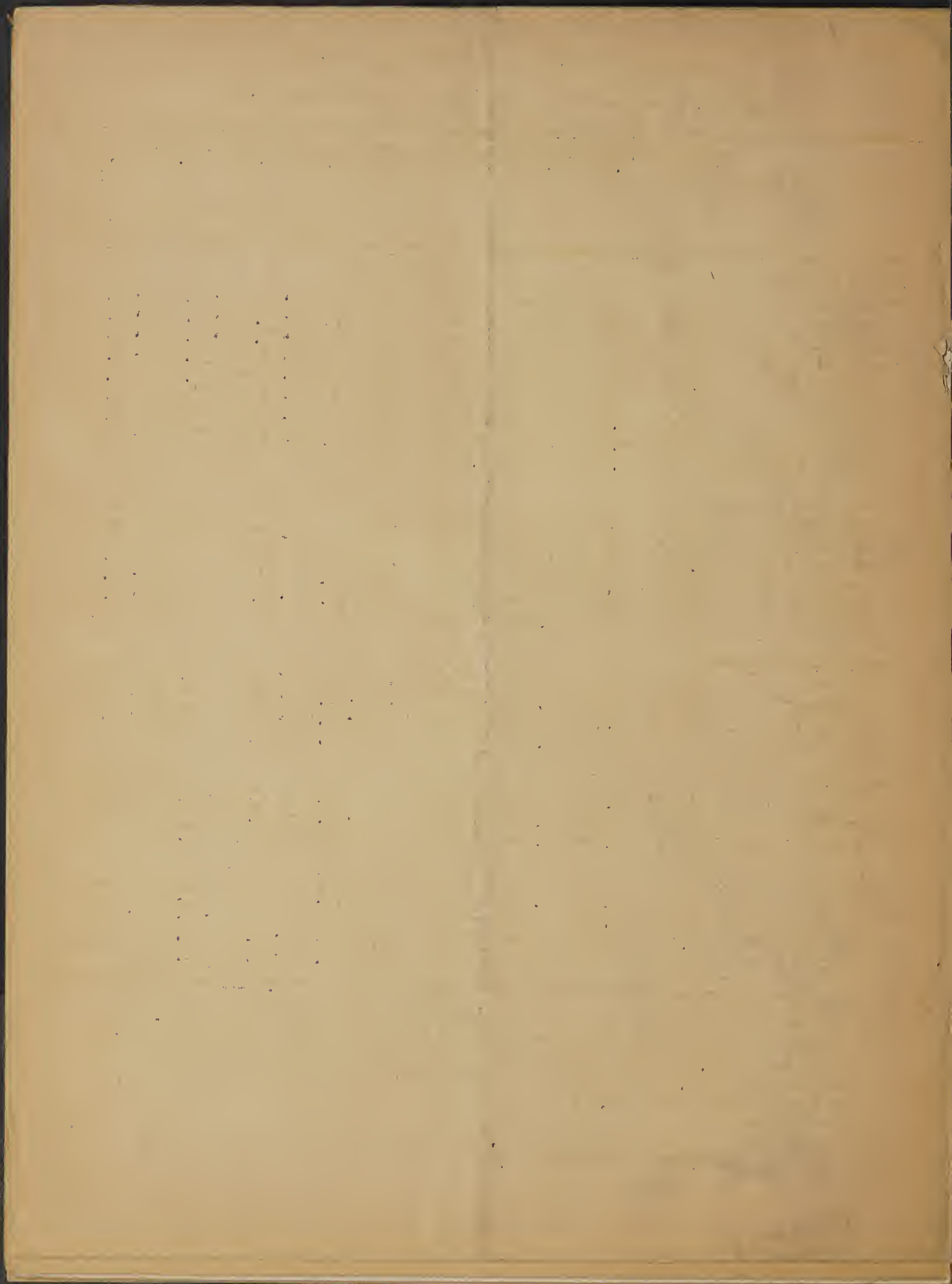
1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

4/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

DEC 30 1943



For release

Friday, January 21, 1944

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington, D. C.

Prices and Cost of Living Branch

COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD

December 1943

338
Un375c
cap. 4

"Retail prices for consumers goods in large cities advanced 0.2 percent from mid-November to mid-December," Secretary of Labor Perkins reported today. "Costs of clothing and coal were higher, and rents moved up slightly from their November levels while food prices declined 0.1 percent over the month," she said. "The total cost of the budget of the moderate-income city family on December 15, 1943 was 3.3 percent above the December 1942 level and 23.4 percent higher than in January 1941, the base date of the Little Steel formula. The cost of living index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics stood at 124.4 percent of the 1935-39 average in December and 124.2 percent in November.

"Clothing costs advanced 0.8 percent from November 15 to December 15, to a point about 34 percent above the pre-war figure, largely because of the continuing trend towards replacement of low-cost merchandise by more expensive price lines. Retailers' stocks were depleted by early Christmas purchases and replacements generally reflected higher wholesale prices permitted under OPA pricing formulas for fall and winter clothing. Extremely limited supplies of children's clothing, men's work clothing, of cotton pajamas, and shorts were reported in most cities. Larger supplies of wool available for civilian use this fall increased the volume of all-wool clothing, particularly men's suits and women's coats, and there were clearance sales of women's fur-trimmed wool coats in some cities in December.

"Permission to advance coal prices was granted by OPA after mid-November to cover higher labor costs involved in the wage settlement. The increases in retail prices from November to December ranged from 60 to 70 cents a ton for Pennsylvania anthracite and from 5 to 30 cents for bituminous coal.

"The decrease in food costs from November to December was primarily due to a 5 percent drop in egg prices, and to lower prices for pork, lard, peanut butter and oranges. The decline in egg prices was larger than usual at this time of year. The average price in December (64 cents per dozen) was 3 cents below the November average, with some stores advertising prices below the OPA ceilings. Pork prices in most cities were lower than in November with increased supplies on the market and an accompanying increase in the civilian ration. Prices were higher for fresh fish and flour, and most fresh vegetables were up seasonally.

"Slight advances in the average rental bill from September to December were reported from 21 of the 34 cities included in the Bureau of Labor Statistics cost of living index, and the average for the large cities was up 0.1 percent. The rise reflected a number of adjustments in individual returns allowed by OPA under its rent regulations, principally for increased occupancy. There were declines in average rents from September to December in 4 cities. In some cities, owners were holding vacant properties for sale thus adding to the shortage of homes available for rent.

"Shortages of furniture and the disappearance of cheaper furniture, towels and brooms resulted in higher costs for housefurnishings. Higher charges were reported in several cities for nursing care and hospital services, barber and beauty shop rates, motion picture admissions, newspapers, and household supplies. Popular brands of the five-cent cigar were hard to obtain in December, and dealers were rationing purchases to a half dozen cigars."

Table 1.

Report for December 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

Date	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House- furnish- ings	Mis- cella- neous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
December 15	120.4	132.7	125.9	108.0	106.3	123.7	112.8
1943: October 15	124.4	138.2	133.3 ^{1/}	108.0	107.9	126.7 ^{1/}	117.6
November 15	124.2 ^{1/}	137.3	133.5 ^{1/}	108.0	108.0	126.9 ^{1/}	117.7
December 15	124.4	137.1	134.6	108.1	109.5	127.9	118.1

Table 1a.

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House furnish- ings	Mis- cella- neous
November 15 ^{1/} , 1943 to December 15, 1943	+ 0.2	- 0.1	+ 0.8	+ 0.1	+ 1.4	+ 0.8	+ 0.3
December 15, 1942 to December 15, 1943	+ 3.3	+ 3.3	+ 6.9	+ 0.1	+ 3.0	+ 3.4	+ 4.7
September 15, 1942 to December 15, 1943	+ 5.6	+ 8.3	+ 7.0	+ 0.1	+ 3.1	+ 3.5	+ 6.0
May 15, 1942 to December 15, 1943	+ 7.2	+ 12.7	+ 6.7	- 1.6	+ 4.4	+ 4.7	+ 6.5
January 15, 1941 to December 15, 1943	+ 23.4	+ 40.2	+ 33.7	+ 3.0	+ 8.6	+ 27.8	+ 15.9
August 15, 1939 to December 15, 1943	+ 26.2	+ 46.6	+ 34.2	+ 3.6	+ 12.3	+ 27.1	+ 17.6

*These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

^{1/} Revised.

Table 2.

Report for December 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change Between November 15, 1943 and December 15, 1943 by Groups*

(Some indexes for November revised)

Area and City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+0.2	-0.1 ^{1/}	+0.8	+0.1	+1.4	+0.8	+0.3
New England:							
Boston	+0.1	-0.4	+1.1	0	+1.1	+1.8	+0.2
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	+0.2	-0.1	+0.6	0	+1.6	+0.2	+0.2
New York	+0.2	-0.1	+1.2	0	+1.2	+1.2	+0.3
Philadelphia	+0.5	+0.5	+0.4	+0.1	+2.6	+0.2	0
Pittsburgh	-0.6	-2.1	+1.8	+0.1	+1.2	+0.2	+0.3
East North Central:							
Chicago	+0.2	-0.1	+0.5	+0.2	+1.2	+1.9	+0.6
Cincinnati	+0.5	+0.7	+0.1	0	+1.5	+0.4	+0.3
Cleveland	+0.1	-0.3	+0.7	+0.1	+1.0	+0.5	+0.2
Detroit	+0.6	+0.7	+0.5	+0.1	+2.4	+2.1	+0.5
West North Central:							
Kansas City	+0.4	0	+0.4	+0.1	+1.0	+0.2	+1.2
Minneapolis	+0.3	+0.1	+1.1	+0.2	+1.3	+0.2	0
St. Louis	+0.3	+0.4	+0.9	-0.1	+0.5	+0.5	+0.1
South Atlantic:							
Baltimore	+0.6	+0.1	+2.9	+0.1	+2.0	+1.4	+0.1
Savannah	-0.1	-0.5	+0.6	0	-0.1	+0.5	+0.2
Washington, D.C.	0	-1.2	+1.5	0	+2.2	+0.2	+0.2
East South Central:							
Birmingham	+0.2	-0.4	+1.2	0	+1.5	+0.6	+0.1
West South Central:							
Houston	+0.2	0	+0.2	+0.1	0	+0.6	+0.3
Mountain:							
Denver	+0.8	+1.4	+0.3	0	+2.2	+0.5	+0.4
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	-0.2	-0.8	+0.6	+0.1	0	+0.1	+0.6
San Francisco	+0.1	0	+0.2	+0.1	0	+1.6	+0.2
Seattle	0	-0.3	+0.2	+0.2	0	+1.4	+0.1

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

^{1/} Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

Table 3.

Report for December 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and other Specified Dates*

City and Area	Dec. 15, 1942 to Dec. 15, 1943	Aug. 15, 1939 to Dec. 15, 1943	Jan. 1, 1941 to Dec. 15, 1943	May 15, 1942 to Dec. 15, 1943
Average: Large Cities	+3.3	+26.2	+23.4	+ 7.2
New England:				
Boston	+1.9	+24.7	+22.2	+ 6.8
Manchester	+2.9	+29.2	+26.1	<u>1/</u>
Portland, Maine	+2.8	+27.2	+25.4	<u>1/</u>
Middle Atlantic:				
Buffalo	+2.0	+28.0	+23.7	+ 4.6
New York	+4.9	+26.4	+23.9	+10.4
Philadelphia	+3.3	+26.4	+24.6	+ 7.8
Pittsburgh	+3.7	+26.4	+22.9	+ 7.4
Scranton	+3.1	+26.6	+22.5	<u>1/</u>
East North Central:				
Chicago	+3.0	+24.7	+21.6	+ 5.7
Cincinnati	+3.5	+27.6	+24.7	+ 7.2
Cleveland	+4.4	+28.3	+25.8	+ 8.0
Detroit	+3.3	+27.3	+24.2	+ 5.6
Indianapolis	+3.2	+27.3	+22.4	<u>1/</u>
Milwaukee	+2.8	+25.3	+22.5	<u>1/</u>
West North Central:				
Kansas City	+4.0	+24.1	+24.4	+ 7.3
Minneapolis	+2.4	+22.5	+19.9	+ 5.3
St. Louis	+2.9	+25.7	+22.1	+ 6.7
South Atlantic:				
Atlanta	+4.3	+26.8	+24.5	<u>1/</u>
Baltimore	+3.4	+27.6	+25.0	+ 6.5
Jacksonville	+5.8	+32.4	+28.0	<u>1/</u>
Norfolk	+4.7	+33.1	+20.4	<u>1/</u>
Richmond	+2.3	+24.6	+22.6	<u>1/</u>
Savannah	+6.1	+32.7	+30.0	+ 9.0
Washington, D. C.	+3.7	+25.2	+23.5	+ 7.6
East South Central:				
Birmingham	+5.6	+29.5	+25.6	+ 7.5
Memphis	+4.4	+30.6	+28.0	<u>1/</u>
Mobile	+2.8	+28.3	+26.0	<u>1/</u>
West South Central:				
Houston	+3.3	+22.5	+21.0	+ 6.2
New Orleans	+3.7	+29.7	+27.1	<u>1/</u>
Mountain:				
Denver	+3.3	+25.3	+23.5	+ 6.8
Pacific:				
Los Angeles	+2.2	+26.0	+23.5	+ 7.2
Portland, Ore.	+2.1	+29.4	+27.0	<u>1/</u>
San Francisco	+2.8	+28.4	+25.2	+ 8.4
Seattle	+2.4	+28.2	+26.0	+ 6.1

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Data for May 15, 1942 not available.

Table 4.

Report for December 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES
Percent Changes Between September 15, 1943 and December 15, 1943 by Groups*

Area and City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnish-	Mis-cella- neous
Average: Large Cities	+0.4	-0.2 ^{1/}	+1.6	+0.1	+1.7	+1.3	+0.9
New England:							
Boston	+0.6	-0.1	+2.6	0	+1.1	+2.0	+1.1
Manchester	+0.7	-0.1	+1.9	0	+0.6	+1.7	+2.0
Portland, Maine	+0.9	+1.3	+0.9	+0.3	+1.6	+1.2	+0.3
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	+0.5	+0.2	+1.0	0	+1.6	+0.2	+0.8
New York	+0.9	+0.5	+2.7	+0.1	+3.0	+1.6	+0.7
Philadelphia	+0.7	+0.7	+0.7	+0.1	+2.6	+0.3	+0.8
Pittsburgh	0	-1.7	+4.0	+0.1	+1.2	+0.6	+0.6
Scranton	+0.2	-0.7	+1.0	-0.1	+5.8	+0.3	+0.4
East North Central:							
Chicago	-0.5	-2.4	+1.0	+0.2	+1.2	+2.5	+1.5
Cincinnati	+0.4	-0.2	+0.6	+0.2	+1.5	+0.7	+1.4
Cleveland	0	-0.9	+1.1	+0.1	+1.0	+1.3	+0.5
Detroit	+0.8	+0.4	+0.7	+0.2	+2.4	+4.0	+1.2
Indianapolis	+0.1	-0.1	-0.1	+0.1	+1.2	+0.2	+0.3
Milwaukee	+0.1	-0.5	+0.4	0	+1.6	+0.4	+0.4
West North Central:							
Kansas City	+0.9	+0.1	+1.2	+0.4	+1.0	+0.3	+2.5
Minneapolis	+0.9	+1.5	+1.7	+0.2	+1.3	+0.3	-0.1
St. Louis	+0.6	+0.1	+1.5	-0.1	+0.5	+1.1	+1.4
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta	-0.2	-1.0	+0.9	+0.1	+0.8	+1.9	+0.9
Baltimore	-0.1	-1.9	+3.5	0	+2.0	+1.7	+1.0
Jacksonville	-1.1	-3.9	+1.0	+0.2	+0.6	+1.1	+1.3
Norfolk	-0.7	-3.1	+0.4	+0.1	+1.2	+1.2	+1.9
Richmond	+0.1	-0.5	+1.5	-0.2	+1.3	+0.4	-0.1
Savannah	-0.5	-1.8	+1.0	0	-0.1	+0.7	+0.6
Washington, D. C.	-0.1	-1.9	+2.1	0	+2.4	+0.5	+0.5
East South Central:							
Birmingham	0	-1.2	+2.2	+0.1	+1.6	+2.1	+0.1
Memphis	-0.5	-2.5	+1.0	+0.1	+0.5	+0.7	+1.1
Mobile	-0.5	-2.0	+0.6	+0.1	+0.2	+0.5	+1.5
West South Central:							
Houston	0	-1.0	+0.4	+0.2	+2.9	+0.6	+0.6
New Orleans	-0.8	-1.8	+0.4	0	0	+0.9	+0.3
Mountain:							
Denver	+1.5	+2.9	+0.6	0	+2.2	+1.5	+0.8
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	+1.0	+1.1	+1.3	+0.2	0 ^{2/}	+0.1	+1.5
Portland, Ore.	+0.4	+0.1	+0.7	-0.2	+0.1	+1.6	+1.1
San Francisco	+1.5	+2.7	+1.5	+0.1	0	+1.7	+0.6
Seattle	+0.6	+0.5	+0.6	+0.4	0	+4.4	+0.6

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

^{1/} Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

^{2/} Index for August and September revised: August 92.5, September 92.5.

Table 5

Report for December 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

(Some Indexes for October and November Revised)

City and Date	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities							
October 15	124.4	138.2 1/	133.3	108.0	107.9	126.7	117.6
November 15	124.2	137.3 1/	133.5	108.0	108.0	126.9	117.7
December 15	124.4	137.1 1/	134.6	108.1	109.5	127.9	118.1
Atlanta:							
October 15	2/	140.3	2/	2/	112.9	2/	2/
November 15	2/	137.5	2/	2/	113.1	2/	2/
December 15	124.3	137.3	130.8	106.6	113.8	123.0	120.6
Baltimore:							
October 15	126.9	147.0	132.8	106.6	106.8	130.7	115.7
November 15	125.2	142.4	133.1	106.5	106.8	130.8	115.7
December 15	125.9	142.5	137.0	106.6	108.9	132.6	115.8
Birmingham:							
October 15	127.3	141.8	133.4	122.3	102.4	122.1	117.6
November 15	127.4	141.7	133.8	122.4	102.5	122.4	117.6
December 15	127.6	141.2	135.4	122.4	104.0	124.3	117.7
Boston:							
October 15	121.6	133.1	130.2	104.9	118.4	121.7	114.5
November 15	121.0	131.4	130.8	104.9	118.4	121.7	114.5
December 15	121.1	130.9	132.2	104.9	119.7	123.9	114.7
Buffalo:							
October 15	126.1	138.5	132.5	114.6	104.8	126.8	122.4
November 15	125.9	137.8	132.6	114.6	104.8	126.9	122.5
December 15	126.1	137.6	133.4	114.6	106.5	127.1	122.7
Chicago:							
October 15	123.8	136.6	128.8	114.5	103.2	121.3	116.2
November 15	122.8	133.9	129.0	114.5	103.2	121.6	116.3
December 15	123.1	133.7	129.6	114.7	104.4	123.9	117.0
Cincinnati:							
October 15	124.0	136.1	135.7	105.3	103.8	131.5	117.8
November 15	123.6	134.9	135.9	105.4	103.8	131.7	118.0
December 15	124.2	135.9	136.0	105.4	105.4	132.2	118.4
Cleveland:							
October 15	128.5	143.9	136.5	115.5	113.5	127.0	117.7
November 15	128.2	143.1	136.7	115.5	113.5	127.1	117.7
December 15	128.3	142.6	137.7	115.6	114.6	127.7	117.9
Denver:							
October 15	121.9	135.3	126.0	109.0	101.3	122.6	116.6
November 15	122.5	136.8	126.2	109.0	101.3	123.2	116.6
December 15	123.5	138.7	126.6	109.0	103.5	123.8	117.1
Detroit:							
October 15	125.0	134.5	132.5	114.4	108.8	125.7	123.3
November 15	124.6	133.3	132.7	114.5	108.8	126.3	123.4
December 15	125.4	134.2	133.3	114.6	111.4	128.9	124.0

Table 5 (Continued)

Report for December 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

(Some Indexes for October and November Revised.)

City and Date	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Houston:							
October, 15	123.5	138.4	134.5	109.2	91.0	123.2	118.7
November 15	123.2	137.3	134.6	109.2	91.8	123.2	118.8
December 15	123.4	137.3	134.9	109.3	91.8	124.0	119.2
Indianapolis:							
October 15	2/	135.4	2/	2/	110.3	2/	2/
November 15	2/	134.0	2/	2/	110.4	2/	2/
December 15	124.8	134.4	130.9	115.6	111.6	130.6	119.1
Jacksonville:							
October, 15	2/	146.8	2/	2/	115.0	2/	2/
November 15	2/	144.9	2/	2/	114.0	2/	2/
December 15	130.4	144.2	133.2	112.4	114.2	128.2	128.8
Kansas City:							
October, 15	121.8	132.6	130.7	108.9	108.2	120.9	118.7
November 15	121.9	132.7	130.8	109.0	108.1	121.0	118.7
December 15	122.4	132.7	131.3	109.1	109.2	121.2	120.1
Los Angeles:							
October, 15	126.3	143.3	134.2	110.2	92.5	119.1	120.1
November 15	126.8	144.4	134.5	110.2	92.5	119.1	120.3
December 15	126.6	143.3	135.3	110.3	92.5	119.2	121.0
Manchester:							
October, 15	2/	134.5	2/	2/	123.5	2/	2/
November 15	2/	133.8	2/	2/	123.5	2/	2/
December 15	126.4	133.8	136.6	107.8	124.3	126.4	118.1
Memphis:							
October, 15	2/	144.4	2/	2/	104.2	2/	2/
November 15	2/	143.9	2/	2/	104.2	2/	2/
December 15	127.7	144.5	142.1	115.9	104.7	126.6	115.8
Milwaukee:							
October, 15	2/	135.4	2/	2/	106.8	2/	2/
November 15	2/	134.0	2/	2/	106.8	2/	2/
December 15	121.5	132.9	127.9	108.2	108.5	125.6	116.1
Minneapolis:							
October, 15	121.7	132.3	130.2	110.1	102.5	125.6	118.8
November 15	121.7	132.2	130.5	110.1	102.5	125.6	118.8
December 15	122.1	132.3	131.9	110.3	103.8	125.9	118.8
Mobile:							
October, 15	2/	147.5	2/	2/	103.9	2/	2/
November 15	2/	145.4	2/	2/	103.9	2/	2/
December 15	126.5	144.9	129.6	113.7	104.1	122.0	117.2
New Orleans:							
October, 15	2/	152.1	2/	2/	104.3	2/	2/
November 15	2/	149.9	2/	2/	104.3	2/	2/
December 15	129.3	149.0	135.7	107.2	104.3	128.6	114.9

Table 5 (Continued)

Report for December 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Index, 1935-39 = 100*

(Some Indexes for October and November Revised)

City and Date	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel electricity and ice	House- furnish- ings	Mis- cella- neous
New York:							
October 15	124.5	138.7	136.9	103.5	111.8	120.8	117.5
November 15	124.8	139.3	137.2	103.5	112.7	121.0	117.6
December 15	125.1	139.1	138.8	103.5	114.0	122.4	117.9
Norfolk:							
October 15	2/	148.3	2/	2/	116.0	2/	2/
November 15	2/	144.8	2/	2/	116.6	2/	2/
December 15	130.2	145.1	136.0	108.7	117.4	131.1	126.4
Philadelphia:							
October 15	123.6	137.1	131.6	106.7	105.8	124.7	116.2
November 15	123.0	135.4	131.8	106.7	105.8	124.8	116.2
December 15	123.6	136.1	132.3	106.8	108.6	125.0	116.2
Pittsburgh:							
October 15	125.0	138.2	142.6	107.3	110.3	125.8	116.0
November 15	125.1	138.0	143.4	107.3	110.3	125.9	116.2
December 15	124.4	135.1	146.0	107.4	111.6	126.2	116.5
Portland, Maine:							
October 15	2/	134.3	2/	2/	116.9	2/	2/
November 15	2/	134.5	2/	2/	117.7	2/	2/
December 15	123.5	134.4	131.9	106.7	118.6	123.3	118.2
Portland, Oregon:							
October 15	2/	144.6	2/	2/	116.5	2/	2/
November 15	2/	145.0	2/	2/	116.6	2/	2/
December 15	129.5	144.9	135.0	115.2	116.6	125.1	121.7
Richmond:							
October 15	2/	137.1	2/	2/	106.5	2/	2/
November 15	2/	136.5	2/	2/	106.7	2/	2/
December 15	122.1	136.0	135.8	103.7	107.9	129.1	113.4
St. Louis:							
October 15	122.7	139.1	133.6	106.1	106.2	118.0	112.9
November 15	122.9	138.7	133.9	106.1	106.2	118.3	114.4
December 15	123.3	139.3	135.1	106.0	106.7	118.9	114.5
San Francisco:							
October 15	126.8	142.4	131.7	106.0	92.1	119.0	124.8
November 15	127.4	143.7	131.9	106.0	92.1	119.0	124.8
December 15	127.5	143.7	132.1	106.1	92.1	120.9	125.1
Savannah:							
October 15	132.5	152.2	134.8	114.0	113.5	121.9	124.0
November 15	131.9	150.4	134.8	114.9	113.5	122.0	124.3
December 15	131.8	149.7	135.6	114.9	113.4	122.6	124.6

Table 5 (Continued)

Report for December 15, 1943

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100*

(Some Indexes for October and November Revised)

City and Date	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Scranton:							
October 15	2/	138.7	2/	2/	104.2	2/	2/
November 15	2/	137.0	2/	2/	104.5	2/	2/
December 15	121.5	136.2	132.9	97.2	109.9	125.0	111.2
Seattle:							
October 15	128.2	142.8	133.6	110.8	102.4	123.4	127.2
November 15	128.6	143.6	133.7	111.0	102.4	125.0	127.2
December 15	128.6	143.1	134.0	111.2	102.4	126.8	127.3
Washington:							
October 15	124.2	140.2	141.5	100.3	106.6	132.4	121.4
November 15	123.4	137.5	141.8	100.3	106.8	132.6	121.4
December 15	123.4	135.9	143.9	100.3	109.2	132.9	121.6

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

2/ Monthly data not available.

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined 1/

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity Group	1943		1942		1941	1939
	2/ Dec. 14	Nov. 16	Dec. 15	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All Foods	137.1	137.3	132.7	126.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	108.4	108.3	105.8	105.4	94.9	93.4
Meats	130.9	130.4	133.2	130.6	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	119.2	119.0	127.5	126.0	109.4	99.6
Pork	113.0	113.3	125.2	124.0	86.1	88.0
Lamb	134.1	133.5	135.7	133.7	98.7	98.8
Chickens	148.5	146.5	134.9	133.7	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	225.2	223.6	183.3	168.2	118.7	99.6
Dairy Products	133.5	3/ 133.6	132.3	127.7	105.1	93.1
Eggs	181.0	190.8	167.2	155.2	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	163.7	162.6	146.6	129.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	171.5	170.1	151.0	130.3	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.0	129.9	127.7	123.8	91.4	91.6
Dried	162.5	162.5	150.5	143.4	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.7	124.8	124.5	123.8	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	124.3	125.0	125.3	120.7	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	126.7	126.6	127.7	127.0	95.3	95.6

Table 6-A - Percent Change

Commodity Group	Nov. 16	Dec. 15	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1943	1942	1942	1941	1939
	to	to	to	to	to
	Dec. 14	Dec. 14	Dec. 14	Dec. 14	Dec. 14
	1943	1943	1943	1943	1943
All Foods	- 0.1	+ 3.3	+ 8.3	+40.2	+46.6
Cereals and bakery products	+ .1	+ 2.5	+ 2.8	+14.2	+16.1
Meats	+ .4	- 1.7	+ .2	+29.5	+36.8
Beef and veal	+ .2	- 6.5	- 5.4	+ 9.0	+19.7
Pork	- .3	- 9.7	- 8.9	+31.2	+28.4
Lamb	+ .4	- 1.2	+ .3	+35.9	+35.7
Chickens	+ 1.4	+10.1	+11.1	+52.8	+57.0
Fish, fresh and canned	+ .7	+22.9	+33.9	+89.7	+126.1
Dairy Products	- .1	+ .9	+ 4.5	+27.0	+43.4
Eggs	- 5.1	+ 8.3	+16.6	+85.8	+99.6
Fruits and vegetables	+ .7	+11.7	+26.2	+75.5	+77.2
Fresh	+ .8	+13.6	+31.6	+83.6	+84.8
Canned	+ .1	+ 1.8	+ 5.0	+42.2	+41.9
Dried	0	+ 8.0	+13.3	+63.2	+80.0
Beverages	- .1	+ .2	+ .7	+37.2	+31.4
Fats and oils	- .6	- .8	+ 3.0	+54.8	+47.1
Sugar and sweets	+ .1	- .8	- .2	+32.9	+32.5

1/ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

Table 7 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - November 16, 1943 to December 14, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
United States	- 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.1	- 5.1	+ 0.7	- 0.1	- 0.6	+ 0.1
New England:									
Boston	- .4	+ .4	+ .2	0	- 6.6	0	+ .2	- .3	+ 1.2
Bridgeport	0	+ .1	- .3	0	- .4	+ .5	0	+ .1	0
Fall River	- .5	0	+ 1.3	- .1	- 7.0	- .9	0	- 1.0	+ .4
Manchester	0	+ .4	+ 2.0	- .2	- 8.4	+ .7	- .2	+ .1	0
New Haven	- .1	+ .1	+ .5	0	- 3.4	- .2	- .1	- .4	- .2
Portland, Me.	- .1	+ .2	+ 1.0	+ .2	- 9.0	+ 2.8	0	- 1.2	+ .1
Providence	- 1.5	0	+ .2	0	- 9.7	- 3.0	- .2	- .6	- .7
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	- .1	0	- .6	- .1	- 5.5	+ 2.2	+ .5	- .9	+ .4
Newark	- .1	0	+ 1.3	- .1	- 6.8	+ .2	- .3	+ .5	- .2
New York	- .1	+ .1	+ 1.1	0	- 4.8	- .2	+ .1	- .5	+ .1
Philadelphia	+ .5	- .3	+ 1.8	0	- 5.3	+ 2.4	- .2	+ .6	+ .5
Pittsburgh	- 2.1	+ .1	+ .1	0	- 6.7	- 6.5	- .2	+ .1	- .1
Rochester	+ .1	+ .1	+ .9	- .1	- 7.6	+ 3.8	- .3	- .9	0
Scranton	- .6	+ .1	- .6	+ .2	- 8.3	+ 1.0	- .1	- .2	+ .2
East North Central:									
Chicago	- .1	+ .1	+ .8	- .1	- 3.9	- .1	+ .1	- .6	- .4
Cincinnati	+ .7	+ .3	+ .3	+ .1	- 2.9	+ 3.1	+ .1	+ .4	0
Cleveland	- .3	+ .1	- .3	+ .8	- 7.4	+ .6	- .5	- .3	0
Columbus, Ohio	- .8	- .5	- .5	0	- 5.4	+ .3	+ .2	- 1.1	0
Detroit	+ .7	+ .2	+ .6	- .1	- 6.0	+ 4.2	+ .2	- .2	0
Indianapolis	+ .3	+ .3	+ 1.7	- .4	- 4.2	+ 1.0	0	- .5	0
Milwaukee	- .8	- .1	- .1	- .5	- 7.7	- .2	- .3	+ .2	+ .7
Peoria	- .5	+ .1	- .3	0	- 3.3	- 1.0	+ .2	- .2	0
Springfield, Ill.	+ .1	+ .3	- .4	- .1	+ .5	+ .8	+ .2	- .8	- .5
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	+ .5	+ .3	+ .5	- .2	- 1.2	+ 2.0	+ .1	- .4	+ .3
Kansas City	0	0	- .3	- .1	- 3.5	+ 1.9	- .2	- .3	+ .5
Minneapolis	+ .1	+ .2	- .4	- .1	- 3.3	+ 2.3	0	- 1.1	0
Omaha	+ .3	+ .4	- .2	- .2	- 1.4	+ 2.0	0	- .8	0
St. Louis	+ .4	+ .1	- .2	- .1	- 2.3	+ 2.3	+ .2	- .6	+ .2
St. Paul	+ .4	- .1	+ .4	+ .3	- 3.6	+ 3.2	- .1	- 2.1	- .3
Wichita	+ 1.4	+ .1	+ .4	0	+ .2	+ 5.9	0	0	+ .4

Table 7 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods (Cont'd)

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - November 15, 1943 to December 14, 1943								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	- 0.1	0.0	- 0.4	0.0	- 2.2	+ 0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Baltimore	+ .1	0	- .3	- .2	- 4.6	+ 2.2	+ .1	- 1.1	- .2
Charleston, S.C.	- .3	- .2	- .6	0	- 3.7	+ 1.0	- .2	- .2	- .6
Jacksonville	- .5	0	- .4	- .1	- 5.2	+ .8	- .2	- .8	+ .1
Norfolk	+ .2	+ .6	- 1.6	- .1	- 5.9	+ 5.3	0	0	- .3
Richmond	- .4	+ .4	- .9	- .2	- 4.4	+ 2.2	0	- .8	- .6
Savannah	- .5	- .1	- .1	0	- 2.0	- 1.1	+ .2	- .2	- .2
Washington, D.C.	- 1.2	0	- 2.6	- .2	- 5.8	+ .5	- .1	- 1.8	- .2
Winston-Salem	- .5	- .9	- .3	+ .1	- 4.2	+ .3	0	- .6	0
East South Central:									
Birmingham	- .4	0	- 1.0	+ .2	- 1.5	+ .4	0	- .7	0
Jackson	- .8	- .9	- 1.0	0	0	- 1.5	0	- .7	- .1
Knoxville	- .5	+ .4	- .3	0	- 2.7	- .9	0	- .5	+ .9
Louisville	- .1	+ .2	- .1	- .2	- 3.9	+ 1.4	0	- .9	+ .1
Memphis	+ .4	- .1	- .1	- .1	- 3.2	+ 3.0	+ .4	0	+ .7
Mobile	- .3	+ .2	- .1	- 1.0	- 2.3	- .6	+ 1.5	+ .3	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	- .4	- .4	- .3	0	- 1.7	- .2	0	- 1.7	- .8
Houston	0	+ .1	- .4	0	- 1.7	+ 1.5	- .1	- .5	0
Little Rock	+ .7	0	+ .4	+ .4	- 2.1	+ 3.3	+ .1	- .4	0
New Orleans	- .6	+ .1	- .3	- .1	- 5.5	- .6	0	- .2	+ .1
Mountain:									
Butte	+ .2	0	0	+ .1	- 4.1	+ 2.1	0	0	0
Denver	+ 1.4	+ .1	- .1	- .1	- 4.0	+ 6.1	+ .1	- .5	+ .1
Salt Lake City	- .9	+ .2	- .1	- .1	- 5.5	- 1.2	0	- 1.3	0
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	- .8	+ .1	+ .3	+ .2	- 6.9	- .6	- .2	- 1.6	+ .3
Portland, Oreg.	- .1	+ 2.1	+ .6	0	- 5.5	+ .3	+ .2	- .9	+ .1
San Francisco	0	0	+ .1	- .4	- 7.2	+ 3.1	- 1.1	- .6	- .3
Seattle	- .3	- .3	- .1	+ .3	- 6.4	+ 1.8	+ .2	- 1.9	- .1

Table 8 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change					
		Nov. 16	Dec. 15	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15	
		1943 to	1942 to	1942 to	1941 to	1939 to	
	Prices	Dec. 14	Dec. 14	Dec. 14	Dec. 14	Dec. 14	
	Cents	1943	1943	1943	1943	1943	
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	63.4	+ 0.6	+14.0	+16.8	+53.1	+77.1
Macaroni	lb.	15.6	0	+ 9.9	+10.6	+13.0	+11.4
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.3	0	- 3.3	- 2.9	- .9	- 3.7
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.6	0	- 5.7	- 5.7	- 7.0	- 5.7
Corn meal	lb.	5.9	0	+13.5	+18.0	+40.5	+47.5
*Rice	"	12.7	- .8	+ 1.6	+ 1.6	+60.8	+69.3
Rolled oats	"	8.7	0	- 1.1	0	+22.5	+22.5
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	11.7	+ 2.6	1/	1/	1/	1/
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.9	0	+ 2.3	+ 2.3	+14.1	+14.1
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.8	0	+ 2.1	+ 3.2	+12.6	+11.4
Bread, rye	"	10.1	0	+ 5.2	+ 4.1	+12.2	+ 9.8
Vanilla cookies	"	28.7	+ 1.1	+ 9.5	+ 6.3	+14.3	2/
Soda crackers	"	18.7	0	+11.3	+12.7	+24.7	+26.4
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	41.8	- .2	- 6.5	- 5.4	+ 8.3	+14.8
Rib roast	"	34.1	+ .9	- 2.6	- 1.7	+ 8.3	+18.0
Chuck roast	"	29.0	0	- 4.6	- 3.3	+15.1	+28.9
*Stew meat	"	31.6	+ 1.0	1/	1/	1/	1/
Liver	"	37.1	+ .5	1/	1/	1/	1/
Hamburger	"	28.8	+ 1.1	1/	1/	1/	1/
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	46.1	+ .4	-16.6	-16.0	+ 2.0	+ 8.5
*Roast, boned and rolled	"	35.9	- .8	1/	1/	1/	1/
Pork:							
Chops	"	37.6	- .3	-12.8	-12.8	+29.2	+21.7
Bacon, sliced	"	41.4	- .2	- 1.0	+ 1.2	+37.5	+36.2
Ham, sliced	"	51.8	+ .2	-13.2	-13.1	+14.9	+11.6
Ham, whole	"	35.7	- .3	- 7.3	- 6.8	+36.3	+30.3
Salt pork	"	22.7	- .4	- 3.4	- 4.6	+35.9	+47.4
*Liver	"	22.1	- .5	1/	1/	1/	1/
*Sausage	"	38.3	- .5	1/	1/	1/	1/
*Bologna, big	"	34.4	- .3	1/	1/	1/	1/
Lamb:							
Leg	"	40.3	+ .2	+ 3.9	+ 6.3	+45.0	+46.0
Rib chops	"	45.7	+ .9	- 3.2	- 3.0	+30.6	+24.5

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Table 8 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change				
		Nov. 16 1943 to Dec. 14 1943	Dec. 15 1942 to Dec. 14 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to Dec. 14 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to Dec. 14 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to Dec. 14 1943
	Cents					
MEATS: (Continued).						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens <u>2/</u> lb.	44.7	+ 1.4	+10.1	+11.1	+ 52.8	+ 57.0
Fish:						
Fish (fresh, frozen) <u>2/</u> lb.	1/	+ .8	+25.3	+38.5	+ 97.5	+133.1
Salmon, pink <u>16</u> oz. can	23.4	- .4	+ 4.9	+ 7.3	+ 49.0	+ 82.8
*Salmon, red "	41.3	+ .2	+ 2.7	+ 1.7	+ 56.4	+ 78.8
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter lb.	50.2	- .2	- 8.4	- .8	+ 32.1	+ 63.5
Cheese "	36.0	+ .3	- .6	+ 5.0	+ 33.3	+ 45.7
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	+ 3.3	+ 4.0	+ 20.0	+ 30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.4	0	+ 5.9	+ 6.7	+ 21.0	+ 30.9
Milk, fresh (average) "	15.2	0	+ 4.1	+ 4.8	+ 19.7	+ 29.9
Milk, evaporated <u>14 1/2</u> oz. can	10.0	0	+ 8.7	+12.4	+ 40.8	+ 49.3
EGGS:						
Eggs, fresh <u>2/</u> doz.	63.9	- 5.1	+ 8.3	+16.6	+ 85.8	+ 99.6
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits and vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples lb.	10.5	+ 2.9	+47.9	+69.4	+101.9	+138.6
Bananas "	12.2	0	+10.9	+18.4	+ 84.8	+100.0
Oranges doz.	43.4	- 5.0	- 1.6	+11.0	+ 59.0	+ 37.8
*Grapefruit ea.	7.4	-21.3	+21.3	-21.3	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green lb.	18.1	- 2.2	+ 6.5	+56.0	+ 29.3	+151.4
Cabbage "	5.5	+22.2	+19.6	+41.0	+ 61.8	+ 41.0
Carrots bunch	10.2	+ 4.1	- 3.8	+47.8	+ 70.0	+121.7
Lettuce head	13.0	0	-18.8	+ 4.0	+ 54.8	+ 54.8
Onions lb.	7.4	+ 4.2	+48.0	+64.4	+105.6	+105.6
Potatoes 15 lb.	62.7	+ 1.8	+21.0	+29.8	+114.7	+ 82.3
Spinach lb.	10.0	+ 4.2	-20.0	- 6.5	+37.0	+ 28.2
Sweetpotatoes "	10.0	+12.4	+72.4	+56.2	+100.0	+ 81.8
*Beets bunch	9.8	+12.6	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>
Canned fruits and vegetables:						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches #2 1/2 can	26.4	0	+ 4.3	+10.0	+ 60.0	+ 54.4
Pineapple "	27.8	- .4	- 4.5	- 1.8	+ 33.0	+ 32.4
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	0	+ 8.3	+16.1	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

Table 8 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Average Prices	Percent Change				
		Nov. 16 1943 to Dec. 14 1943	Dec. 15 1942 to Dec. 14 1943	Sept. 15 1942 to Dec. 14 1943	Jan. 14 1941 to Dec. 14 1943	Aug. 15 1939 to Dec. 14 1943
	Cents					
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)						
Canned vegetables:						
Beans, green #2 can	14.5	+ 0.7	+ 2.8	+ 5.8	+45.0	+45.0
Corn "	14.2	0	+ 2.9	+ 6.8	+32.7	+36.5
Peas "	14.4	- .7	- 2.7	- 1.4	+ 9.1	+ 5.9
Tomatoes "	12.4	+ .8	+ 3.3	+ 6.9	+47.6	+44.2
*Soup, vegetable 11 oz. can	13.1	+ 1.6	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits and vegetables:						
Dried fruits:						
Prunes lb.	16.8	+ .6	+ 5.0	+13.5	+75.0	+90.9
Dried vegetables:						
Navy beans lb.	10.5	0	+14.1	+15.4	+61.5	+81.0
*Soup, dehydrated chicken noodle oz.	3.7	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:						
Coffee lb.	29.9	+ .3	+ 4.5	+ 4.2	+44.4	+34.1
Tea $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	23.6	0	+ 9.3	+ 5.4	+34.1	+37.2
*Cocoa $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	9.5	0	- 5.0	- 6.9	+ 4.4	+10.5
FATS AND OILS:						
Lard lb.	18.8	- .5	0	+ 8.7	+102.2	+89.9
Shortening other than lard:						
In cartons lb.	20.0	0	+ 1.5	+ 2.6	+77.0	+70.9
In other containers "	24.9	0	+ 2.0	+ 2.0	+36.1	+23.3
Salad dressing pt.	25.5	+ .4	+ 2.0	+ 1.2	+26.9	2/
Oleomargarine lb.	24.0	0	+ 6.7	+ 7.1	+53.8	+45.5
Peanut butter "	29.6	- 4.5	- .7	+ 6.5	+65.4	+65.4
*Oil, cooking or salad pt.	30.7	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:						
Sugar lb.	6.8	0	+ 1.4	- 1.4	+33.3	+30.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.9	0	+ 3.9	+ 5.3	+16.9	+16.1
*Molasses 18 oz.	15.9	0	+ 4.6	+ 6.7	+18.7	+16.9
*Apple butter 16 oz.	13.2	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 9 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100					Percent Change			
	Dec. 14	Nov. 16	Dec. 15	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Nov. 16	Dec. 15	Sept. 15	Jan. 14
	2/1943	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943 to Dec. 14 1943	1942 to Dec. 14 1943	1942 to Dec. 14 1943	1941 to Dec. 14 1943
United States	137.1	137.3	132.7	126.6	97.8	- 0.1	+ 3.3	+ 8.3	+40.2
New England:									
Boston	130.9	131.4	130.7	124.4	95.2	- .4	+ .2	+ 5.2	+37.5
Bridgeport	136.7	136.7	131.4	127.1	96.5	0	+ 4.0	+ 7.6	+41.7
Fall River	132.6	133.2	130.9	125.7	97.5	- .5	+ 1.3	+ 5.5	+36.0
Manchester	133.8	133.8	132.3	126.8	96.6	0	+ 1.1	+ 5.5	+38.5
New Haven	136.9	137.1	133.0	126.2	95.7	- .1	+ 2.9	+ 8.5	+43.1
Portland, Me.	134.4	134.5	131.3	125.8	95.3	- .1	+ 2.4	+ 6.8	+41.0
Providence	134.2	136.2	131.0	126.3	96.3	- 1.5	+ 2.4	+ 6.3	+39.4
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	137.6	137.8	135.5	127.6	100.2	- .1	+ 1.5	+ 7.8	+37.3
Newark	139.4	139.5	134.5	128.0	98.8	- .1	+ 3.6	+ 8.9	+41.1
New York	139.1	139.3	132.3	125.2	99.5	- .1	+ 5.1	+11.1	+39.8
Philadelphia	136.1	135.4	130.5	123.9	95.0	+ .5	+ 4.3	+ 9.8	+43.3
Pittsburgh	135.1	138.0	131.6	125.9	98.0	- 2.1	+ 2.7	+ 7.3	+37.9
Rochester	132.5	132.4	132.0	125.2	99.9	+ .1	+ .4	+ 5.8	+32.6
Scranton	136.2	137.0	131.7	125.6	97.5	- .6	+ 3.4	+ 8.4	+39.7
East North Central:									
Chicago	133.7	133.9	129.9	124.9	98.2	- .1	+ 2.9	+ 7.0	+36.2
Cincinnati	135.9	134.9	131.5	126.9	96.5	+ .7	+ 3.3	+ 7.1	+40.8
Cleveland	142.6	143.1	134.8	127.3	99.2	- .3	+ 5.8	+12.0	+43.8
Columbus, Ohio	130.7	131.7	126.0	119.6	93.4	- .8	+ 3.7	+ 9.3	+39.9
Detroit	134.2	133.3	131.8	124.7	97.0	+ .7	+ 1.8	+ 7.6	+38.4
Indianapolis	134.4	134.0	131.4	127.1	98.2	+ .3	+ 2.3	+ 5.7	+36.9
Milwaukee	132.9	134.0	128.6	121.0	95.9	- .8	+ 3.3	+ 9.8	+38.6
Peoria	140.8	141.5	135.2	130.7	99.0	- .5	+ 4.1	+ 7.7	+42.2
Springfield, Ill.	141.0	140.9	136.0	130.2	96.2	+ .1	+ 3.7	+ 8.3	+46.6
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids <u>3/</u>	139.7	139.0	129.1	121.2	95.9	+ .5	+ 8.2	+15.3	+45.7
Kansas City	132.7	132.7	127.2	120.7	92.4	0	+ 4.3	+ 9.9	+43.6
Minneapolis	132.3	132.2	129.9	123.3	99.0	+ .1	+ 1.8	+ 7.3	+33.6
Omaha	132.2	131.8	129.0	123.2	97.9	+ .3	+ 2.5	+ 7.3	+35.0
St. Louis	139.3	138.7	134.4	126.7	99.2	+ .4	+ 3.6	+ 9.9	+40.4
St. Paul	131.8	131.3	128.1	120.8	98.6	+ .4	+ 2.9	+ 9.1	+33.7
Wichita <u>3/</u>	148.8	146.7	138.3	132.0	97.2	+ 1.4	+ 7.6	+12.7	+53.1

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

Table 9 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100					Percent Change				
	Dec. 14	Nov. 16	Dec. 15	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Nov. 16	Dec. 15	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	
	2/1943	1943	1942	1942	1941	1943	1942	1942	1941	
						to Dec. 14 1943	to Dec. 14 1943	to Dec. 14 1943	to Dec. 14 1943	
South Atlantic:										
Atlanta	137.3	137.5	130.2	125.9	94.3	- .1	+ 5.5	+ 9.1	+45.6	
Baltimore	142.5	142.4	137.3	131.2	97.9	+ .1	+ 3.8	+ 8.6	+45.6	
Charleston, S.C.	134.4	134.8	129.2	126.6	95.9	- .3	+ 4.0	+ 6.2	+40.1	
Jacksonville	144.2	144.9	138.3	134.2	98.8	- .5	+ 4.3	+ 7.5	+46.0	
Norfolk 4/	145.1	144.8	136.4	131.9	95.8	+ .2	+ 6.4	+10.0	+51.5	
Richmond	136.0	136.5	131.3	126.2	93.7	- .4	+ 3.6	+ 7.8	+45.1	
Savannah	149.7	150.4	137.6	133.3	100.5	- .5	+ 8.8	+12.3	+49.0	
Washington, D.C.	135.9	137.5	132.7	128.1	97.7	- 1.2	+ 2.4	+ 6.1	+39.1	
Winston-Salem 3/	137.5	138.2	125.6	119.8	93.7	- .5	+ 9.5	+14.8	+46.7	
East South Central:										
Birmingham	141.2	141.7	130.2	125.3	96.0	- .4	+ 8.4	+12.7	+47.1	
Jackson 3/	144.6	145.8	146.1	141.0	105.3	- .8	- 1.0	+ 2.6	+37.3	
Knoxville 3/	157.4	158.2	139.3	134.2	97.1	- .5	+13.0	+17.3	+62.1	
Louisville	134.0	134.2	128.0	124.2	95.5	- .1	+ 4.7	+ 7.9	+40.3	
Memphis	144.5	143.9	137.1	129.7	94.2	+ .4	+ 5.4	+11.4	+53.4	
Mobile	144.9	145.4	138.3	133.9	97.9	- .3	+ 4.8	+ 8.2	+48.0	
West South Central:										
Dallas	135.5	136.0	126.9	123.7	92.6	- .4	+ 6.8	+ 9.5	+46.3	
Houston	137.3	137.3	134.4	130.8	102.6	0	+ 2.2	+ 5.0	+33.8	
Little Rock	135.5	134.5	131.1	129.2	95.6	+ .7	+ 3.4	+ 4.9	+41.7	
New Orleans	149.0	149.9	142.9	135.9	101.9	- .6	+ 4.3	+ 9.6	+46.2	
Mountain:										
Butte	137.2	136.9	132.7	124.6	98.7	+ .2	+ 3.4	+10.1	+39.0	
Denver	138.7	136.8	132.4	126.8	94.8	+ 1.4	+ 4.8	+ 9.4	+46.3	
Salt Lake City	141.3	142.6	137.8	130.1	97.5	- .9	+ 2.5	+ 8.6	+44.9	
Pacific:										
Los Angeles	143.3	144.4	142.8	137.9	101.8	- .8	+ .4	+ 3.9	+40.8	
Portland, Oreg.	144.9	145.0	145.9	141.2	101.7	- .1	- .7	+ 2.6	+42.5	
San Francisco	143.7	143.7	140.1	133.5	99.6	0	+ 2.6	+ 7.6	+44.3	
Seattle	143.1	143.6	143.6	137.3	101.0	- .3	- .3	+ 4.2	+41.7	

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Indexes based on June 1940 equals 100.

4/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

5/ Revised.

Table 1.

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Report for June 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*
 (Some indexes for April and May 1944 are Revised)

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: June 15	124.8	141.9	127.9	108.0	107.7	125.4	115.7
1944: April 15	124.6 ^{1/}	134.6	137.1 ^{1/}	108.1	109.9	132.9 ^{1/}	120.9 ^{1/}
May 15	125.1 ^{1/}	135.5	137.4 ^{1/}	108.1	109.8	135.0 ^{1/}	121.3 ^{1/}
June 15	125.4	135.7	138.0	108.1	109.6	138.4	121.7

Table 1a.

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
May 15, 1944 to June 15, 1944	+0.2	+0.1	+0.4	0	-0.2	+2.5	+0.3
June 15, 1943 to June 15, 1944	+0.5	-4.4	+7.9	+0.1	+1.8	+10.4	+5.2
September 15, 1942 to June 15, 1944	+6.5	+7.2	+9.7	+0.1	+3.2	+12.0	+9.2
May 15, 1942 to June 15, 1944	+8.1	+11.6	+9.4	-1.6	+4.5	+13.3	+9.7
January 15, 1941 to June 15, 1944	+24.4	+38.8	+37.0	+3.0	+8.7	+38.3	+19.4
August 15, 1939 to June 15, 1944	+27.2	+45.1	+37.6	+3.6	+12.4	+37.6	+21.2

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities combined.

^{1/} Revised.

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change Between May 15, 1944 and June 15, 1944 by Groups*

(Some indexes for May revised)

Area and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+0.2	+0.1 ^{1/}	+0.4	0	-0.2	+2.5	+0.3
New England:							
Boston	+0.4	+0.6	+0.2	0	-0.2	+5.0	+0.2
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	+0.2	+0.3	+0.2	-0.1	-0.4	+2.6	+0.2
New York	0	-0.1	+0.4	-0.1	-0.3	+0.5	0
Philadelphia	+0.9	+1.3	+0.9	-0.1	0	+3.0	+0.5
Pittsburgh	+0.8	+0.9	+2.0	0	+0.8	+2.3	+0.4
East North Central:							
Chicago	+0.5	+0.9	+0.4	0	0	+2.2	+0.3
Cincinnati	+1.6	+3.5	+0.1	-0.1	0	+1.9	+0.2
Cleveland	0	-0.4	+0.3	+0.1	+0.1	+1.0	+0.3
Detroit	+0.6	+0.5	+0.1	+0.1	+0.4	+3.4	+1.7
West North Central:							
Kansas City	-0.1	-0.7	+0.4	+0.2	0	+0.5	+0.4
Minneapolis	0	-0.4	+0.2	0	0	+0.2	+0.3
St. Louis	+0.3	+0.7	+0.1	0	0	+1.2	0
South Atlantic:							
Baltimore	+0.5	+0.5	+0.6	0	-0.5	+3.6	+0.2
Savannah	+0.4	+0.5	+0.5	0	0	+1.1	+0.1
Washington, D. C.	+0.4	+0.9	+0.2	0	-0.5	+0.6	+0.6
East South Central:							
Birmingham	+0.6	+0.9	+0.8	0	+1.1	+0.1	+0.6
West South Central:							
Houston	-0.2	-0.7	+0.1	-0.1	-0.1	+2.2	+0.2
Mountain:							
Denver	-0.3	-1.3	+0.8	0	0	+4.8	0
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	-0.6	-2.0	+0.1	+0.1	0	+1.8	+0.3
San Francisco	-0.2	-1.5	+0.7	+0.1	0	+13.6	+0.1
Seattle	-0.1	-0.6	+0.7	+0.1	+0.4	+1.5	+0.2

* Percent changes based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

^{1/} Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the 15th of the month.

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1, 1941 and other Specified Dates*

Area and City	June 15, 1943 to June 15, 1944	Aug. 15, 1939 to June 15, 1944	Jan. 1, 1941 to June 15, 1944	May 15, 1942 to June 15, 1944	Sept. 15, 1942 to June 15, 1944
Average: Large Cities	+0.5	+27.2	+24.4	+8.1	+6.5
New England:					
Boston	0	+25.4	+22.9	+7.4	+4.8
Manchester	-1.6	+29.3	+26.2	+6.8	+5.2
Portland, Maine	-0.3	+27.8	+26.0	+7.2	+5.2
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	-1.2	+28.2	+23.9	+4.8	+4.8
New York	+1.7	+27.2	+24.7	+11.1	+8.3
Philadelphia	+0.8	+27.6	+25.8	+8.8	+6.8
Pittsburgh	+1.3	+28.6	+25.0	+9.2	+7.7
Scranton	-0.3	+28.3	+24.2	+8.5	+6.9
East North Central:					
Chicago	+0.6	+26.4	+23.3	+7.1	+6.4
Cincinnati	+1.9	+30.1	+27.1	+9.2	+7.3
Cleveland	-0.2	+28.9	+26.4	+8.5	+7.8
Detroit	-0.2	+28.5	+25.3	+6.6	+6.9
Indianapolis	0	+28.8	+23.7	+6.1	+6.0
Milwaukee	+0.9	+27.6	+24.8	+8.1	+7.4
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+1.4	+25.3	+25.5	+8.2	+7.7
Minneapolis	+0.2	+22.6	+20.0	+5.4	+4.6
St. Louis	+0.5	+26.7	+23.1	+7.5	+6.6
South Atlantic:					
Atlanta	+0.3	+28.2	+25.9	+9.5	+7.1
Baltimore	-0.5	+29.2	+26.6	+7.9	+6.4
Jacksonville	+0.8	+33.7	+29.2	+10.5	+8.4
Norfolk	-0.8	+33.2	+29.5	+8.9	+6.7
Richmond	0	+25.1	+23.1	+6.8	+4.6
Savannah	+1.1	+34.6	+31.9	+10.6	+9.5
Washington, D. C.	+0.5	+26.2	+24.5	+8.5	+6.2
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+2.5	+31.5	+27.5	+9.1	+9.0
Memphis	+1.7	+32.1	+29.5	+10.4	+8.3
Mobile	-0.9	+29.0	+26.7	+7.2	+5.2
West South Central:					
Houston	+0.3	+22.7	+21.2	+6.4	+4.7
New Orleans	-0.2	+29.8	+27.2	+9.5	+6.4
Mountain:					
Denver	+1.0	+26.5	+24.7	+7.9	+6.4
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+0.4	+26.2	+23.7	+7.4	+4.2
Portland, Oreg.	-1.0	+29.3	+26.9	+6.3	+3.6
San Francisco	+0.4	+30.1	+26.9	+9.9	+6.9
Seattle	+0.5	+28.4	+26.2	+6.3	+5.0

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 4.

Report for June 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change Between March 15, 1944 and June 15, 1944 by Groups*

Area and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+1.3	+1.2 ^{1/}	+1.0	0	-0.3	+7.3	+2.2
New England:							
Boston	+1.1	+1.4	+1.0	0	-0.2	+7.7	+1.4
Manchester	+0.2	-0.8	+1.1	+0.1	+0.8	+6.2	+0.3
Portland, Maine	+1.0	-0.4	+3.6	0	0	+10.9	+1.9
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	+1.2	+1.0	+0.7	-0.1	-0.4	+11.1	+1.9
New York	+1.0	+0.8	+0.9	-0.1	-0.5	+2.4	+2.3
Philadelphia	+1.7	+2.0	+1.8	-0.1	-1.3	+9.3	+2.3
Pittsburgh	+1.8	+2.2	+2.3	0	+0.8	+4.5	+2.1
Scranton	+1.9	+2.6	+1.3	+0.1	-1.1	+9.0	+1.9
East North Central:							
Chicago	+1.9	+2.9	+0.9	0	+0.1	+11.2	+1.9
Cincinnati	+2.8	+4.1	+0.2	-0.1	+0.4	+8.0	+3.3
Cleveland	+0.9	+0.7	+0.5	0	+0.2	+7.4	+1.2
Detroit	+1.7	+1.7	+0.5	+0.1	+0.4	+8.2	+3.4
Indianapolis	+1.4	+1.2	+0.5	0	+0.1	+11.1	+1.6
Milwaukee	+1.8	+2.7	+0.1	0	+0.4	+12.0	+1.2
West North Central:							
Kansas City	+1.1	+0.5	+1.1	+0.2	0	+4.6	+2.6
Minneapolis	+0.7	+0.2	+0.5	+0.1	+0.9	+3.3	+1.8
St. Louis	+1.5	+2.1	+0.3	0	0	+3.5	+2.1
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta	+1.6	+1.7	+1.7	+0.1	+0.4	+4.8	+2.4
Baltimore	+1.3	+1.4	+1.8	-0.1	-0.5	+7.9	+1.4
Jacksonville	+2.0	+2.4	+1.6	0	0	+15.6	+1.7
Norfolk	+0.2	-1.2	+1.2	-0.2	+0.3	+6.2	+1.5
Richmond	+1.2	+1.7	+0.9	+0.1	-0.5	+4.3	+1.4
Savannah	+1.4	+2.0	+0.2	+0.2	-1.8	+9.6	+1.7
Washington, D. C.	+1.6	+2.7	+0.7	0	-0.5	+0.6	+2.6
East South Central:							
Birmingham	+2.0	+2.6	+1.4	+0.1	+1.1	+8.5	+2.3
Memphis	+1.8	+2.6	+0.6	0	+0.3	+8.3	+1.4
Mobile	+0.6	-0.4	+0.8	+0.1	+0.1	+16.4	+1.1
West South Central:							
Houston	+0.8	+0.1	+0.2	-0.1	-0.1	+2.5	+2.8
New Orleans	+0.5	-0.2	+0.5	-0.1	-0.3	+4.3	+1.9
Mountain:							
Denver	+1.5	+1.3	+1.0	+0.2	+0.5	+13.2	+2.0
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	+0.5	-1.2	+0.7	+0.1	0	+10.4	+2.3
Portland, Oreg.	0	+0.8	+1.6	+0.1	-21.1	+9.2	+1.9
San Francisco	+1.4	+0.2	+1.2	+0.1	0	+13.6	+3.2
Seattle	+0.5	-0.1	+1.4	+0.2	-1.0	+1.6	+1.6

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

^{1/} Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the 15th of the month.

Table 5.

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Report for June 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0
(Some indexes for April and May revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities							
April 15	124.6	134.6 $\frac{1}{1}$	137.1	108.1	109.9	132.9	120.9
May 15	125.1	135.5 $\frac{1}{1}$	137.4	108.1	109.8	135.0	121.3
June 15	125.4	135.7 $\frac{1}{1}$	138.0	108.1	109.6	138.4	121.7
New England:							
Boston:							
April 15	121.2	129.5	135.4	104.9	120.2	125.1	116.0
May 15	121.3	129.6	135.6	104.9	120.2	126.5	116.2
June 15	121.8	130.4	135.9	104.9	120.0	132.8	116.4
Manchester:							
April 15	$\frac{2}{2}$	130.8	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{2}{2}$	124.7	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{2}{2}$
May 15	$\frac{2}{2}$	131.7	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{2}{2}$	124.7	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{2}{2}$
June 15	126.5	130.9	141.7	107.9	125.7	136.6	119.0
Portland, Maine:							
April 15	$\frac{2}{2}$	131.2	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{2}{2}$	119.3	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{2}{2}$
May 15	$\frac{2}{2}$	131.4	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{2}{2}$	119.3	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{2}{2}$
June 15	124.1	131.1	138.9	106.6	119.2	139.0	120.8
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo:							
April 15	124.9	132.5	135.0	114.7	107.3	128.5	124.5
May 15	126.0	134.2	135.2	114.7	107.3	138.1	124.9
June 15	126.3	134.6	135.5	114.6	106.9	141.7	125.1
New York:							
April 15	125.3	135.7	141.5	103.5	114.2	126.6	123.8
May 15	125.9	137.0	141.9	103.5	113.9	126.7	123.9
June 15	125.9	136.8	142.4	103.4	113.6	127.3	123.9
Philadelphia:							
April 15	123.5	132.5	136.2	106.8	110.4	132.3	118.9
May 15	123.7	132.8	137.3	106.8	109.0	133.7	119.1
June 15	124.8	134.5	138.5	106.7	109.0	137.7	119.7
Pittsburgh:							
April 15	125.4	134.8	151.7	107.4	111.5	130.6	117.9
May 15	125.5	134.6	151.8	107.4	111.5	130.7	118.5
June 15	126.5	135.8	154.8	107.4	112.4	133.7	119.0
Scranton:							
April 15	$\frac{2}{2}$	135.4	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{2}{2}$	112.2	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{2}{2}$
May 15	$\frac{2}{2}$	135.5	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{2}{2}$	112.2	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{2}{2}$
June 15	123.2	135.9	138.3	97.2	111.0	139.2	114.7
East North Central:							
Chicago:							
April 15	124.0	133.9	131.2	114.7	105.1	135.1	118.5
May 15	124.2	134.2	131.5	114.7	105.1	135.7	119.0
June 15	124.8	135.4	132.0	114.7	105.1	138.7	119.3
Cincinnati:							
April 15	125.2	135.4	136.7	105.5	106.0	140.1	122.1
May 15	124.6	133.7	136.8	105.5	106.0	140.3	122.2
June 15	126.6	138.4	137.0	105.4	106.0	143.0	122.5

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

(Some Indexes for April and May Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Cleveland:							
April 15	128.8	141.7	138.8	115.7	114.8	135.8	119.3
May 15	128.9	141.9	139.0	115.6	114.9	137.1	119.5
June 15	128.9	141.3	139.4	115.7	115.0	138.5	119.9
Detroit:							
April 15	125.2	131.2	135.7	114.6	112.0	134.4	125.8
May 15	125.8	132.4	135.9	114.6	111.9	136.5	126.1
June 15	126.6	133.0	136.1	114.7	112.4	141.1	128.2
Indianapolis:							
April 15	2/	132.1	2/	2/	112.0	2/	2/
May 15	2/	132.2	2/	2/	112.1	2/	2/
June 15	126.2	132.6	134.1	115.6	112.1	148.2	122.3
Milwaukee:							
April 15	2/	132.1	2/	2/	109.6	2/	2/
May 15	2/	134.4	2/	2/	109.8	2/	2/
June 15	123.8	135.5	130.3	108.3	109.6	142.7	117.9
West North Central:							
Kansas City:							
April 15	122.9	130.1	133.6	109.2	110.2	124.5	124.1
May 15	123.6	131.4	134.2	109.3	110.2	126.3	124.5
June 15	123.5	130.5	134.8	109.5	110.2	126.9	125.0
Minneapolis:							
April 15	121.7	128.9	135.0	110.3	104.1	132.2	120.2
May 15	122.2	129.5	135.4	110.3	104.9	132.3	120.8
June 15	122.2	129.0	135.7	110.3	104.9	132.5	121.2
St. Louis:							
April 15	123.6	137.4	137.4	106.0	107.2	124.2	117.0
May 15	123.9	137.8	137.5	106.0	107.2	124.2	117.2
June 15	124.3	138.7	137.6	106.0	107.2	125.7	117.2
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta:							
April 15	2/	134.6	2/	2/	114.0	2/	2/
May 15	2/	135.4	2/	2/	114.2	2/	2/
June 15	125.6	135.2	134.1	106.7	114.5	131.3	125.9
Baltimore:							
April 15	126.7	140.3	141.8	106.4	109.4	138.4	119.9
May 15	126.9	140.5	142.8	106.4	109.4	139.7	120.2
June 15	127.5	141.2	143.6	106.4	108.9	144.7	120.5
Jacksonville:							
April 15	2/	141.4	2/	2/	114.2	2/	2/
May 15	2/	143.0	2/	2/	114.2	2/	2/
June 15	131.7	142.9	137.1	112.5	114.2	149.0	131.4
Norfolk:							
April 15	2/	143.8	2/	2/	117.4	2/	2/
May 15	2/	142.7	2/	2/	117.8	2/	2/
June 15	130.3	142.0	139.5	108.6	117.8	140.8	128.4

Table 5 (Continued)

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Report for June 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

(Some Indexes for April and May Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Richmond:							
April 15	2/	131.6	2/	2/	107.9	2/	2/
May 15	2/	131.9	2/	2/	107.9	2/	2/
June 15	122.6	134.0	139.6	103.9	107.4	134.7	116.0
Savannah:							
April 15	133.4	150.8	139.6	115.1	111.8	126.1	127.9
May 15	133.2	149.4	139.1	115.2	111.8	136.4	128.4
June 15	133.7	150.2	139.8	115.2	111.8	137.9	128.5
Washington, D. C.:							
April 15	123.3	132.8	146.1	100.3	109.4	133.8	124.4
May 15	123.9	134.1	146.3	100.3	109.4	133.8	125.1
June 15	124.4	135.3	146.6	100.3	108.8	134.6	125.8
East South Central:							
Birmingham:							
April 15	127.6	136.1	136.8	122.5	104.6	133.6	122.8
May 15	128.7	138.5	137.3	122.5	104.6	134.7	123.5
June 15	129.5	139.8	138.4	122.5	105.8	134.9	124.2
Memphis:							
April 15	2/	141.3	2/	2/	105.2	2/	2/
May 15	2/	143.0	2/	2/	105.2	2/	2/
June 15	129.2	144.7	145.1	116.0	105.2	138.1	118.0
Mobile:							
April 15	2/	143.4	2/	2/	104.4	2/	2/
May 15	2/	143.4	2/	2/	104.4	2/	2/
June 15	127.2	142.1	133.6	114.5	104.4	142.7	119.4
West South Central:							
Houston:							
April 15	123.2	135.3	135.5	109.4	91.2	124.1	121.1
May 15	123.8	135.9	135.6	109.4	91.2	124.4	122.5
June 15	123.6	135.0	135.7	109.3	91.1	127.1	122.8
New Orleans:							
April 15	2/	148.5	2/	2/	104.6	2/	2/
May 15	2/	148.4	2/	2/	104.6	2/	2/
June 15	129.4	146.9	137.3	107.1	104.4	134.1	117.9
Mountain:							
Denver:							
April 15	123.9	136.6	128.5	109.2	103.6	136.4	119.5
May 15	125.1	139.3	128.6	109.3	104.1	136.7	120.1
June 15	124.7	137.5	129.6	109.3	104.1	143.2	120.1
Pacific:							
Los Angeles:							
April 15	126.0	138.6	137.3	110.4	92.5	120.2	124.3
May 15	127.6	142.0	137.2	110.4	92.5	129.9	124.6
June 15	126.8	139.2	137.3	110.5	92.5	132.3	125.0

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

(Some Indexes for April and May Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Portland, Oreg.:							
April 15	<u>2/</u>	142.2	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	116.7	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
May 15	<u>2/</u>	144.7	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	116.7	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
June 15	129.4	144.4	140.2	115.5	92.1	136.9	124.4
San Francisco:							
April 15	128.3	142.2	135.1	106.2	92.6	120.9	128.8
May 15	129.4	144.7	135.5	106.2	92.6	120.9	129.1
June 15	129.2	142.5	136.5	106.3	92.6	137.4	129.2
Seattle:							
April 15	127.9	139.2	136.4	111.4	101.4	127.3	129.8
May 15	128.9	141.3	136.9	111.4	101.7	127.3	130.2
June 15	128.8	140.4	137.8	111.5	102.1	129.2	130.4

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the 15th of the month.

2/ Monthly data not available.

Table 6. Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined 1/
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity Group	1944		1943	1942	1941	1939
	2/June 13	May 16	June 15	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All foods	135.7	135.5	141.9	126.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	108.4	108.1	107.5	105.4	94.9	93.4
Meats	129.8	130.3	138.3	130.6	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	118.8	118.9	131.4	126.0	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.0	111.9	125.4	124.0	86.1	88.0
Lamb	134.8	134.4	142.7	133.7	98.7	98.8
Chickens	154.1	155.9	147.2	133.7	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	196.7	200.5	201.1	168.2	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	133.5	133.5	133.7	127.7	105.1	93.1
Eggs	129.1	127.1	146.2	155.2	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	174.0	172.8	187.8	129.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	184.6	183.1	202.1	130.3	93.4	92.8
Canned	129.2	129.2	130.5	123.8	91.4	91.6
Dried	164.1	163.5	158.6	143.4	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.3	124.4 ^{3/}	124.5	123.8	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	123.1	123.3	126.5	120.7	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	126.5	126.5	126.5	127.0	95.3	95.6

1/ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

Table 6-A - Percent Change

Commodity Group	May 16	June 15	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1944	1943	1942	1941	1939
	to	to	to	to	to
	June 13 1944	June 13 1944	June 13 1944	June 13 1944	June 13 1944
All foods	+ 0.1	- 4.4	+ 7.2	+38.8	+45.1
Cereals and bakery products	+ .3	+ .8	+ 2.8	+14.2	+16.1
Meats	- .4	- 6.1	- .6	+28.4	+35.6
Beef and veal	- .1	- 9.6	- 5.7	+ 8.6	+19.3
Pork	+ .1	-10.7	- 9.7	+30.1	+27.3
Lamb	+ .3	- 5.5	+ .8	+36.6	+36.4
Chickens	- 1.2	+ 4.7	+15.3	+58.5	+62.9
Fish, fresh and canned	- 1.9	- 2.2	+16.9	+65.7	+97.5
Dairy products	0	- .1	+ 4.5	+27.0	+43.4
Eggs	+ 1.6	-11.7	-16.8	+32.5	+42.3
Fruits and vegetables	+ .7	- 7.3	+34.2	+86.5	+88.3
Fresh	+ .8	- 8.7	+41.7	+97.6	+98.9
Canned	0	- 1.0	+ 4.4	+41.4	+41.0
Dried	+ .4	+ 3.5	+14.4	+64.8	+81.7
Beverages	- .1	- .2	+ .4	+36.7	+31.0
Fats and oils	- .2	- 2.7	+ 2.0	+53.3	+45.7
Sugar and sweets	0	0	- .4	+32.7	+32.3

Table 7 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - May 16, 1944 to June 13, 1944								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bov- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweet
United States	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	- 0.4	0.0	+ 1.6	+ 0.7	- 0.1	- 0.2	0.0
New England:									
Boston	+ .6	+ .1	- .5	+ .1	+ 3.3	+ 2.3	0	- .1	+ .1
Bridgeport	0	+ .1	- .7	0	- .5	+ 1.0	- .2	- .1	- .2
Fall River	- .5	+ .2	- 1.4	- .1	+ 3.3	- .1	+ .2	- .2	+ .8
Manchester	- .6	+ .3	- .6	+ .3	- .5	- 2.6	- .1	- .2	+ .3
New Haven	- .4	+ .1	- 1.0	- .1	+ 1.7	- .6	0	- .2	0
Portland, Maine	- .2	+ .3	- 1.0	0	+ 1.6	- .6	0	0	+ .9
Providence	+ 1.1	+ .2	- .9	- .1	+ 2.5	+ 5.3	0	- .2	0
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	+ .3	0	- .8	+ .1	- .5	+ 2.7	+ .3	- 1.4	0
Newark	- .1	+ .3	- .7	0	+ 1.8	+ .3	- .1	- .6	- .2
New York	- .1	+ .4	- .9	- .1	+ 3.7	- .6	0	- .6	+ .6
Philadelphia	+ 1.3	+ .1	- .7	- .2	- .7	+ 6.2	- .1	- .4	+ .2
Pittsburgh	+ .9	+ .2	- .1	- .2	+ .6	+ 3.4	- .2	- .1	+ .1
Rochester	+ 1.4	+ .2	- .5	+ .2	- 4.0	+ 9.2	+ .4	- 1.2	- .1
Scranton	+ .3	+ .2	- .6	0	+ 2.1	+ 1.3	0	- 1.2	0
East North Central:									
Chicago	+ .9	+ 1.3	- .2	+ .1	+ .5	+ 2.5	- .3	0	+ .2
Cincinnati	+ 3.5	+ .1	- .2	- .1	+ 6.3	+ 11.6	- .3	- .1	+ .1
Cleveland	- .4	+ .1	- .1	+ .1	+ .3	- 1.6	- .2	+ .4	- .7
Columbus, Ohio	0	+ .3	- .1	0	+ 7.1	- 2.0	+ .2	- .6	0
Detroit	+ .5	- .1	0	0	- 1.2	+ 2.1	- .1	+ .1	0
Indianapolis	+ .3	0	+ .1	- .2	+ .6	+ 1.5	0	0	0
Milwaukee	+ .8	+ .2	0	+ .1	- .7	+ 3.3	0	+ .1	0
Peoria	0	+ .5	+ .2	+ .1	+ .3	- .4	- .3	- .4	+ 1.7
Springfield, Ill.	+ .3	+ .6	- .1	0	+ 4.2	+ .3	0	0	+ .4
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	+ .7	+ .3	+ .1	+ .1	+ 3.4	+ 1.7	- .2	0	+ .5
Kansas City	- .7	+ .5	+ .2	0	+ 4.4	- 4.4	- .1	+ .1	+ .8
Minneapolis	- .4	+ .4	- .2	0	+ .1	- 1.5	0	- .1	0
Omaha	- .1	+ .1	- .2	+ .1	+ 1.9	- .7	0	+ .1	- .4
St. Louis	+ .7	+ .2	+ .2	+ .1	+ .9	+ 1.7	+ .1	- .1	0
St. Paul	+ .2	+ .4	+ .2	+ .1	+ .8	0	- .2	- .5	+ .2
Wichita	+ .5	+ .3	0	+ .1	+ 3.3	+ .8	+ 2.1	- .1	0

Table 7 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities (Cont'd)
by Groups of Foods

City and Regional Area	Percent Change - May 16, 1944 to June 13, 1944								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	- 0.1	+ 0.3	- 0.9	+ 0.4	+ 1.2	- 0.3	- 0.1	+ 0.1	0.0
Baltimore	+ .5	- .2	+ .2	- .5	+ 1.7	+ 1.8	+ .2	- .7	+ .1
Charleston, S. C.	- .1	+ .3	+ .2	- .1	+ 1.4	- 1.1	+ .3	- .3	- .1
Jacksonville	- .1	+ .3	- .3	0	+ 12.2	- 2.9	- .3	0	0
Norfolk	- .5	0	- 1.1	+ .1	+ 4.0	- 1.4	+ .2	0	0
Richmond	+ 1.6	+ .4	0	- .2	+ .2	+ 6.9	0	- .3	+ .1
Savannah	+ .5	+ .2	+ 2.8	- .1	+ 2.1	- 2.0	+ .1	- .5	- .7
Washington, D. C.	+ .9	+ .4	+ 1.2	- .7	+ 1.0	+ 2.0	+ .1	- .2	- .6
Winston-Salem	+ .7	+ .2	+ .2	+ .2	+ 5.8	+ 1.4	+ .1	0	0
East South Central:									
Birmingham	+ .9	0	- .1	0	+ 5.9	+ 2.0	0	- .1	+ .2
Jackson	- .8	0	- .3	- .1	0	- 3.4	0	0	0
Knoxville	+ .9	- .4	0	0	+ 7.2	+ 2.3	0	- .1	+ .6
Louisville	+ 1.6	0	- .2	- .1	+ 5.1	+ 6.8	0	0	- .1
Memphis	+ 1.2	+ .5	+ .5	+ .1	+ 5.8	+ 2.6	0	- .8	- .6
Mobile	- .9	+ .3	- .1	- .4	+ 2.8	- 5.1	0	0	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	- 1.9	+ .2	0	0	+ 1.7	- 8.4	- .4	+ .1	+ .2
Houston	- .7	+ .4	- .1	- .1	+ 5.0	- 4.1	0	0	+ .2
Little Rock	- .1	0	- .3	+ .2	+ 4.4	- 1.0	0	- .4	0
New Orleans	- 1.0	+ .2	- 1.3	- .1	+ .5	- 2.9	- .1	+ .3	0
Mountain:									
Butte	- .2	0	- .1	+ .1	- .8	- .4	0	- .4	0
Denver	- 1.3	+ .5	- .2	0	+ 1.7	- 4.5	+ .4	- .2	0
Salt Lake City	+ .2	+ .4	0	0	+ .8	+ 1.1	- 3.1	- 1.6	- 1.4
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	- 2.0	+ .6	+ .1	- .1	+ 2.2	- 6.5	+ .1	0	- .5
Portland, Oreg.	- .2	+ .5	- 2.1	+ .1	+ 1.6	+ .7	0	- .2	0
San Francisco	- 1.5	+ .4	- 1.3	+ .2	+ .2	- 4.2	+ .3	+ .1	+ .1
Seattle	- .6	0	+ .1	0	+ .7	- 3.1	- .4	0	+ .1

Table 8 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity		June 13	Percent Change				
		1944	May 16	June 15	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
		Average	1944 to	1943 to	1942 to	1941 to	1939 to
		Prices	June 13	June 13	June 13	June 13	June 13
		1944	1944	1944	1944	1944	1944
		Cents					
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.9	-0.5	+ 6.2	+19.5	+56.8	+81.3
Macaroni	lb.	15.7	0	+ 1.3	+11.3	+13.8	+12.1
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.2	- .4	0	- 3.3	- 1.3	- 4.1
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.5	0	- 3.0	- 7.1	- 8.5	- 7.1
Corn meal	lb.	6.2	+1.6	+10.7	+24.0	+47.6	+55.0
*Rice	"	12.9	+ .8	+ 2.4	+ 3.2	+63.3	+72.0
Rolled oats	"	9.4	+5.6	+ 9.3	+ 8.0	+32.4	+32.4
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	12.1	0	+15.2	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	+1.1	- 1.1	+ 1.1	+12.8	+12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.7	0	0	+ 2.1	+11.5	+10.2
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	- 1.0	+ 2.1	+10.0	+ 7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	28.7	+ .7	- 2.0	+ 6.3	+14.3	<u>2/</u>
Soda crackers	"	18.9	- .5	+ 6.8	+13.9	+26.0	+27.7
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	41.6	- .5	-11.5	- 5.9	+ 7.8	+14.3
Rib roast	"	33.7	0	-10.4	- 2.9	+ 7.0	+16.6
Chuck roast	"	28.9	- .3	- 8.8	- 3.7	+14.7	+28.4
*Stew meat	"	31.5	0	- 9.7	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver	"	37.3	+ .5	- .8	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Hamburger	"	28.0	0	-12.8	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	45.1	- .9	-11.0	-17.9	- .2	+ 6.1
*Roast, boned & rolled	"	35.0	- .6	- 7.9	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:							
Chops	"	37.3	0	-11.0	-13.5	+28.2	+20.7
Bacon, sliced	"	41.2	+ .2	- 9.8	+ .7	+36.9	+35.5
Ham, sliced	"	51.1	+ .2	-13.1	-14.3	+13.3	+10.1
Ham, whole	"	35.6	+ .6	-10.6	- 7.0	+35.9	+29.9
Salt pork	"	22.4	- .4	- 9.3	- 5.9	+34.1	+45.5
*Liver	"	22.0	- .5	- 6.4	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage	"	38.2	0	+ .3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologna, big	"	34.2	-2.8	+ .3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:							
Leg	"	40.1	+ .2	- 4.1	+ 5.8	+44.2	+45.3
Rib chops	"	45.3	+ .2	- 8.1	- 3.8	+29.4	+23.4

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Table 8 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	June 13 1944 Average Prices Cents	Percent change				
		May 16 1944 to June 13 1944	June 15 1943 to June 13 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to June 13 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to June 13 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to June 13 1944
MEATS: (Continued)						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens 2/ lb.	46.0	- 1.2	+ 4.7	+15.3	+58.5	+62.9
Fish:						
Fish (fresh, frozen) 2/ lb.	1/	- 2.2	- 2.7	+18.3	+68.3	+99.2
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.7	- 1.7	- 1.7	+ 8.7	+51.0	+85.2
*Salmon, red "	45.4	+ 5.8	+ 9.1	+11.8	+72.0	+96.5
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter lb.	49.9	- .2	- 1.2	- 1.4	+31.3	+62.5
Cheese "	36.0	0	- 6.5	+ 5.0	+33.3	+45.7
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	+ .6	+ 4.0	+20.0	+30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	+ .7	+ 7.4	+21.8	+51.8
Milk, evaporated 14 ¹ / ₂ oz. can	10.0	0	- 1.0	+12.4	+40.8	+49.3
EGGS:						
Eggs, fresh 2/ doz.	45.7	+ 1.6	-11.7	-16.8	+32.5	+42.3
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits and vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples lb.	12.1	+ 2.5	-18.8	+95.2	+132.7	+175.0
Bananas "	11.4	0	- 2.6	+10.7	+72.7	+86.9
Oranges doz.	43.2	+ 3.0	+10.3	+23.3	+76.6	+53.0
*Grapefruit each	9.2	+ 5.7	+ 5.7	- 2.1	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green lb.	16.6	-14.9	+ 5.1	+43.1	+18.6	+130.6
Cabbage "	5.4	- 3.6	-46.0	+38.5	+58.8	+38.5
Carrots bunch	8.5	+ 1.2	+ 2.4	+23.2	+41.7	+84.8
Lettuce head	11.5	- 6.5	-24.3	- 8.0	+36.9	+36.9
Onions lb.	6.5	-27.8	-27.3	+4.4	+80.6	+80.6
Potatoes 15 lb.	78.7	+13.4	- 6.6	+62.9	+169.5	+128.3
Spinach lb.	9.7	+ 5.4	- 4.9	- 9.3	+32.9	+24.4
Sweetpotatoes "	12.7	+ 4.1	-29.8	+98.4	+154.0	+130.9
*Beets bunch	10.7	+ 1.9	- 7.3	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>
Canned fruits and vegetables:						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches #2 ¹ / ₂ can	27.5	+ .7	+ 3.8	+14.6	+66.7	+60.8
Pineapple "	27.5	0	- 2.8	- 2.8	+31.6	+51.0
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	0	+ 2.1	+16.1	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

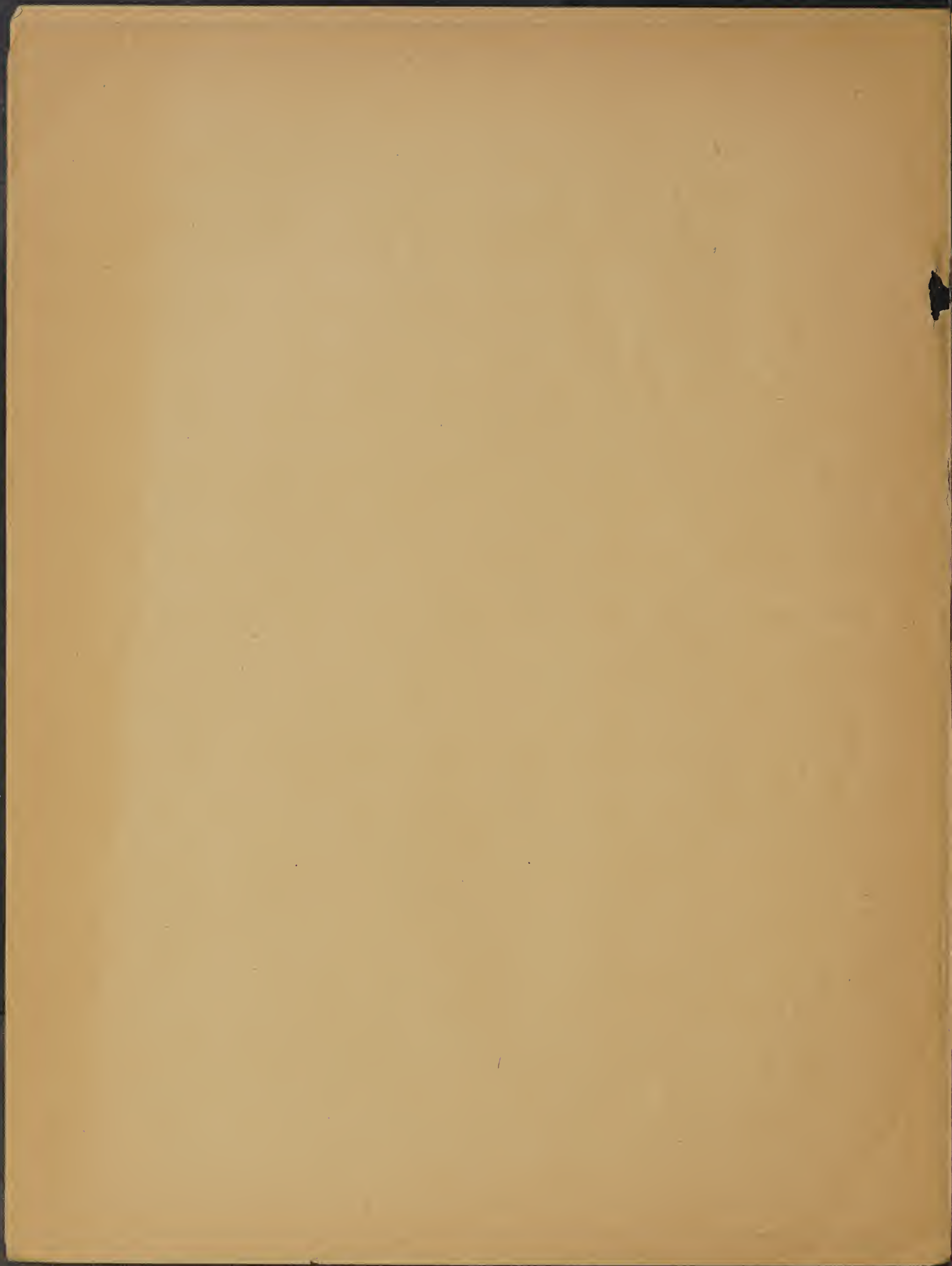
* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.



Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 9 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941 and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100					Percent Chg.		
	June 13 1944	May 16 1944	June 15 1943	Sept. 15 1942	Jan. 14 1941	May 16 1944 to June 13 1944	June 15 1943 to June 13 1944	Sept. 1942 to June 13 1944
United States	135.7	135.5	141.9	126.6	97.8	+ 0.1	-4.4	+ 7.2
New England:								
Boston	130.4	129.6	136.8	124.4	95.2	+ .6	-4.7	+ 4.8
Bridgeport	131.4	131.4	143.8	127.1	96.5	0	-8.6	+ 3.4
Fall River	129.2	129.8	140.8	125.7	97.5	- .5	-8.2	+ 2.8
Manchester	130.9	131.7	143.4	126.8	96.6	- .6	-8.7	+ 3.2
New Haven	132.6	133.1	143.1	126.2	95.7	- .4	-7.3	+ 5.1
Portland, Maine	131.1	131.4	140.6	125.3	95.3	- .2	-6.8	+ 4.2
Providence	133.4	131.9	139.7	126.3	96.3	+ 1.1	-4.5	+ 5.6
Middle Atlantic:								
Buffalo	134.6	134.2	145.2	127.6	100.2	+ .3	-7.3	+ 5.5
Newark	137.7	137.8	142.1	128.0	98.8	- .1	-3.1	+ 7.6
New York	136.8	137.0	141.4	125.2	99.5	- .1	-3.3	+ 9.3
Philadelphia	134.5	132.8	139.2	123.9	95.0	+ 1.3	-3.4	+ 8.6
Pittsburgh	135.8	134.6	142.3	125.9	98.0	+ .9	-4.6	+ 7.9
Rochester	131.3	129.5	138.6	125.2	99.9	+ 1.4	-5.3	+ 4.9
Scranton	135.9	135.5	144.4	125.6	97.5	+ .3	-5.9	+ 8.2
East North Central:								
Chicago	135.4	134.2	140.0	124.9	98.2	+ .9	-3.3	+ 8.4
Cincinnati	138.4	133.7	139.2	126.9	96.5	+ 3.5	- .6	+ 9.1
Cleveland	141.3	141.9	149.5	127.3	99.2	- .4	-5.5	+11.0
Columbus, Ohio	127.1	127.1	134.5	119.6	93.4	0	-5.5	+ 6.3
Detroit	133.0	132.4	141.6	124.7	97.0	+ .5	-6.1	+ 6.7
Indianapolis	132.6	132.2	140.3	127.1	98.2	+ .3	-5.5	+ 4.3
Milwaukee	135.5	134.4	138.7	121.0	95.9	+ .8	-2.3	+12.0
Peoria	138.2	138.2	146.9	130.7	99.0	0	-5.9	+ 5.7
Springfield, Ill.	140.9	140.5	146.4	130.2	96.2	+ .3	-3.8	+ 8.2
West North Central:								
Cedar Rapids 4/	137.3	136.3	143.3	121.2	95.9	+ .7	-4.2	+13.3
Kansas City	130.5	131.4	135.8	120.7	92.4	- .7	-3.9	+ 8.1
Minneapolis	129.0	129.5	134.1	123.3	99.0	- .4	-3.8	+ 4.6
Omaha	131.1	131.2	137.7	123.2	97.9	- .1	-4.8	+ 6.4
St. Louis	138.7	137.8	143.5	126.7	99.2	+ .7	-3.3	+ 9.5
St. Paul	128.1	127.9	133.7	120.8	98.6	+ .2	-4.2	+ 6.0
Wichita 4/	146.2	145.5	149.7	132.0	97.2	+ .5	-2.3	+10.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities ^{1/}

Table 9 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and other Specified Periods (Cont'd)

State and City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100					Percent Change				
	June 13	May 15	June 15	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	May 16	June 15	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	
	2/1944	1944	1943	1942	1941	1944	to June 13 1944	to June 13 1944	to June 13 1944	to June 13 1944
Atlantic:										
Baltimore	135.2	135.4	143.9	125.9	94.3	- 0.1	- 6.0	+ 7.4	+43.4	
Boston	141.2	140.5	152.5	131.2	97.9	+ .5	- 7.4	+ 7.6	+44.2	
Charleston, S.C.	130.6	130.7	139.0	126.6	95.9	- .1	- 6.0	+ 3.2	+36.2	
Jacksonville	142.9	143.0	151.7	134.2	98.8	- .1	- 5.8	+ 6.5	+44.6	
Norfolk ^{5/}	142.0	142.7	151.7	131.9	95.8	- .5	- 6.4	+ 7.7	+48.2	
Richmond	134.0	131.9	139.6	126.2	93.7	+ 1.6	- 4.0	+ 6.2	+43.0	
Savannah	150.2	149.4	153.8	134.3	100.5	+ .5	- 2.3	+12.7	+49.5	
Washington, D.C.	135.3	134.1	142.7	128.1	97.7	+ .9	- 5.2	+ 5.6	+38.5	
Winston-Salem ^{4/}	135.1	134.2	139.7	119.3	93.7	+ .7	- 3.3	+12.8	+44.2	
East South Central:										
Birmingham	139.8	138.5	141.9	125.3	96.0	+ .9	- 1.5	+11.6	+45.6	
Jackson ^{4/}	139.3	140.4	149.6	141.0	105.3	- .8	- 6.9	- 1.2	+32.3	
Knoxville ^{4/}	154.1	152.7	158.5	134.2	97.1	+ .9	- 2.8	+14.8	+58.7	
Louisville	132.9	130.8	139.5	124.2	95.5	+ 1.6	- 4.7	+ 7.0	+39.2	
Memphis	144.7	143.0	148.3	129.7	94.2	+ 1.2	- 2.4	+11.6	+53.6	
Mobile	142.1	143.4	149.8	133.9	97.9	- .9	- 5.1	+ 6.1	+45.1	
West South Central:										
Dallas	130.8	133.3	136.6	123.7	92.6	- 1.9	- 4.2	+ 5.7	+41.3	
Houston	135.0	135.9	140.0	130.8	102.6	- .7	- 3.6	+ 3.2	+31.6	
Little Rock	133.8	133.9	140.1	129.2	95.6	- .1	- 4.5	+ 3.6	+40.0	
New Orleans	146.9	148.4	152.2	135.9	101.9	- 1.0	- 3.5	+ 8.1	+44.2	
Mountain:										
Butte	132.8	133.0	140.6	124.6	98.7	- .2	- 5.5	+ 6.6	+34.5	
Denver	137.5	139.3	141.0	126.8	94.8	- 1.3	- 2.5	+ 8.4	+45.0	
Salt Lake City	139.5	139.2	144.1	130.1	97.5	+ .2	- 3.2	+ 7.2	+43.1	
Pacific:										
Los Angeles	139.2	142.0	146.8	137.9	101.8	- 2.0	- 5.2	+ .9	+36.7	
Portland, Oreg.	144.4	144.7	152.1	141.2	101.7	- .2	- 5.1	+ 2.3	+42.0	
San Francisco	142.5	144.7	149.8	133.5	99.6	- 1.5	- 4.9	+ 6.7	+43.1	
Seattle	140.4	141.3	146.6	137.3	101.0	- .6	- 4.2	+ 2.3	+39.0	

^{1/} Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

^{2/} Preliminary.

^{3/} Revised.

^{4/} June 1940 equals 100.

^{5/} Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25

CORRECTION TO REPORT ON "THE COST OF LIVING AND
RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD," JUNE 15, 1944

Please make the following corrections in the attached report:

Page 5, Table 3:

Change to June 15, 1944 from:	Manchester	New Orleans
June 15, 1943	- 1.3	No correction
Aug. 15, 1939	+29.7	+29.7
Jan. 1, 1941	+26.5	+27.1
May 15, 1942	+ 7.1	+ 9.4
Sept. 15, 1942	+ 5.5	+ 6.3

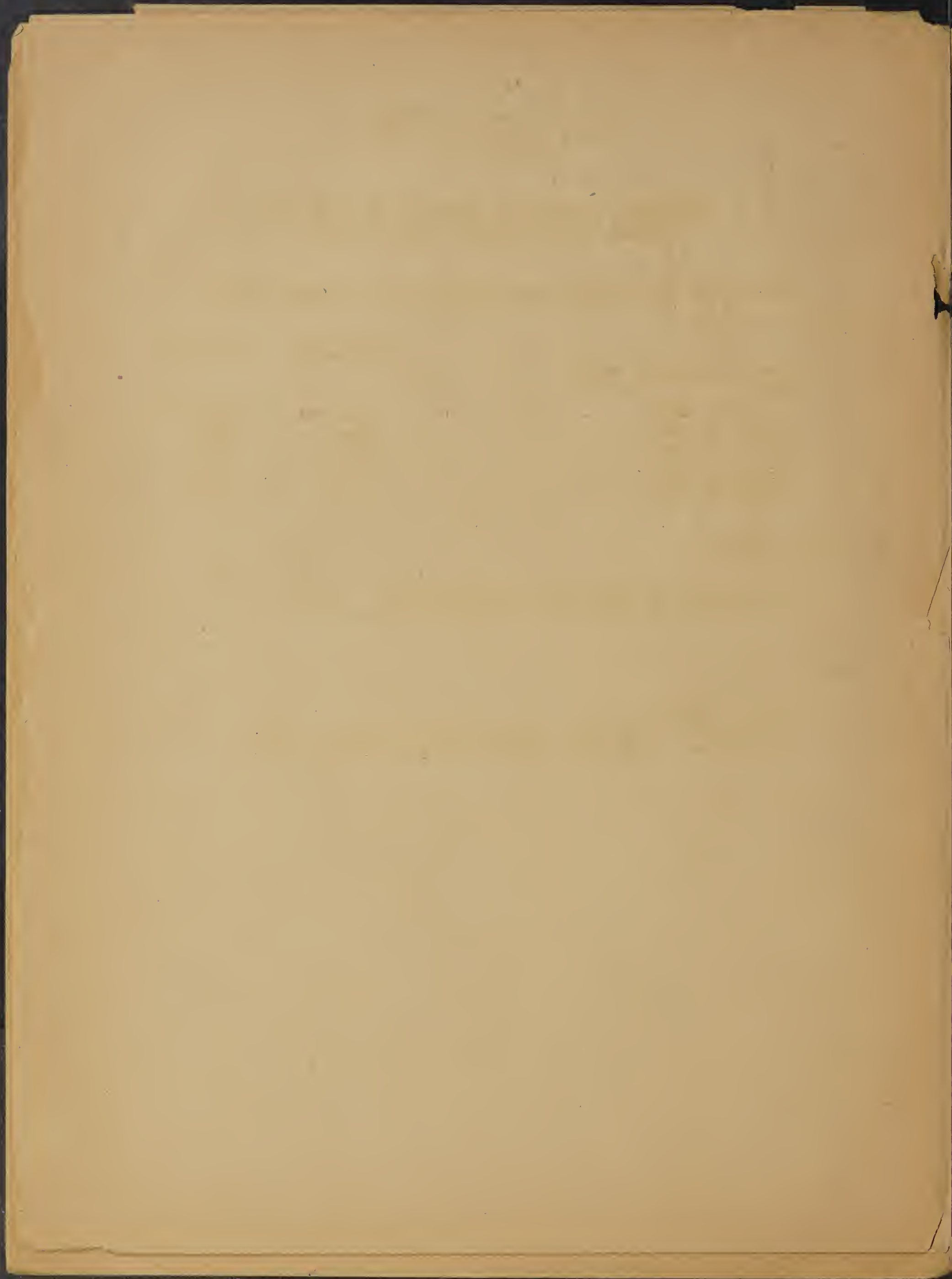
Page 6, Table 4:

Manchester: All items +0.4; miscellaneous +1.5
New Orleans: All items +0.4; housefurnishings +0.5

Page 8, Table 5:

June 15 indexes:

Manchester: All items 126.8; miscellaneous 120.5
New Orleans: All items 129.3; housefurnishings 129.3



For release in AM papers
August 18, 1944

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

THE LIBRARY OF THE

COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD - JULY 1944

The BLS index indicates average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. The items covered represented 70 percent of the expenditures of families who had incomes ranging from \$1250 to \$2000 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods and forced changes in housing and eating away from home.

It does not measure changes in total "living costs" -- that is, in the total amount families spend for living. Income taxes and bond subscriptions are not included.

"Higher prices for food, particularly eggs and fresh fruits and vegetables, accounted for most of the 0.6 percent rise in retail prices of living essentials during the month ending July 15," Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins reported today. "Increases in other elements of the family budget were small," she said.

"During the past year, average prices of family living essentials have risen by 1.8 percent, compared to advances of 6 percent and 11 percent in the years ending July 1943 and July 1942. The advance over the year has been primarily in clothing prices, housefurnishings and miscellaneous services. Food prices as a whole are slightly lower than they were a year ago.

Food

"The 1.3 percent increase in food prices over the month was primarily due to egg prices, which rose by 15 percent, to an average of almost 53 cents per dozen after declining rapidly during the spring.

"There was a net rise of 2 percent in July in prices of the fresh fruits and vegetables included in the Bureau's index, reflecting higher prices for shippers established by OPA on some of this season's crops. The average price of 13.6 cents per pound for apples represented an increase of 12 percent over June, where there is usually a decline, and oranges advanced by more than 5 percent. Higher prices were reported for potatoes, sweet potatoes, spinach, and onions in July, but there were large decreases for cabbage, lettuce, and green beans.

"A contraseasonal decline of 0.4 percent was reported for meats, with most cuts reported lower than in June. In comparison with July 1943, prices of meats, eggs, fruits and vegetables as a group were lower, and cereals and bakery products were slightly higher.

Other Goods

"Except for foodstuffs, average prices paid by moderate-income city families for goods and services showed only occasional small increases between mid-June and mid-July. There were scattered price advances for men's work shirts and summer-weight suits, and for women's wash frocks and rayon underwear. In the housefurnishings group, small increases were reported for prices of cook stoves and bedroom suites in a few cities.

"Scattered advances in prices charged for beauty shop services, daily newspapers and laundry work caused an 0.1 percent rise in the cost of miscellaneous goods and services. Average fuel prices rose 0.2 percent over the month due to some increases in bituminous coal prices.

"Rents were not surveyed in July."

Table 1

Report for July 15, 1944

- 3 -

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: July 15	123.9	139.0	129.1	108.0	107.6	125.6	116.1
1944: June 15	125.4	135.7	138.0	108.1	109.6	138.4	121.7
July 15	126.1	137.4	138.2	<u>1/</u>	109.8	138.5	121.8

Table 1a

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent ^{2/}	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
June 15, 1944 to July 15, 1944	+ 0.6	+ 1.3	+ 0.1	<u>1/</u>	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
July 15, 1943 to July 15, 1944	+ 1.8	- 1.2	+ 7.0	+ 0.1	+ 2.0	+10.3	+ 4.9
Sept. 15, 1942 to July 15, 1944	+ 7.0	+ 8.5	+ 9.9	+ 0.1	+ 3.4	+12.1	+ 9.3
May 15, 1942 to July 15, 1944	+ 8.7	+13.0	+ 9.5	- 1.6	+ 4.7	+13.3	+ 9.8
Jan. 15, 1941 to July 15, 1944	+25.1	+40.5	+37.2	+ 3.0	+ 8.9	+38.4	+19.5
Aug. 15, 1939 to July 15, 1944	+27.9	+47.0	+37.8	+ 3.6	+12.6	+37.7	+21.3

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

^{1/} Rents surveyed at quarterly dates March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

^{2/} Changes through June 15, 1944.

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change Between June 15, 1944 and July 15, 1944 by Groups*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities:	+0.6 <u>1/</u>	+1.3 <u>2/</u>	+0.1 <u>3/</u>	+0.2 <u>4/</u>	+0.1 <u>3/</u>	+0.1 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	+0.5	+1.2	+0.1	0	+0.1	0
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	+0.2	+0.3	+0.1	0	0	0
New York	+0.4	+1.0	+0.1	+0.1	0	+0.2
Philadelphia	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	0	0	-0.1
Pittsburgh	+0.2	+0.7	0	0	+0.2	0
East North Central:						
Chicago	+1.0	+2.4	+0.1	0	0	+0.1
Cincinnati	+0.3	+0.6	+0.4	0	+0.2	+0.2
Cleveland	+1.1	+2.3	+0.1	0	0	+0.5
Detroit	+0.9	+2.6	+0.2	-0.1	+0.1	-0.2
West North Central:						
Kansas City	+0.6	+1.5	-0.1	0	0	-0.1
Minneapolis	+0.7	+1.8	0	0	0	+0.1
St. Louis	+1.0	+2.3	+0.1	0	0	+0.1
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	+0.6	+1.3	+0.2	0	+0.3	+0.2
Savannah	+0.7	+1.8	0	0	0	+0.2
Washington, D. C.	-0.1	-0.3	+0.1	0	0	-0.1
East South Central:						
Birmingham	+0.5	+1.1	+0.1	0	0	+0.2
West South Central:						
Houston	+0.6	+1.5	0	0	+0.5	0
Mountain:						
Denver	+1.0	+2.3	+0.4	0	0	0
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	-0.2	-0.5	+0.1	0	0	0
San Francisco	+0.1	-0.1	+0.2	0	0	+0.3
Seattle	+0.5	+1.1	+0.3	+0.3	0	+0.2

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates - March, June, September, December.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the 15th of the month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and Other Specified Dates*

Region and City	July 15, 1943 to July 15, 1944	Aug. 15, 1939 to July 15, 1944	Jan. 1, 1941 to July 15, 1944	May 15, 1942 to July 15, 1944	Sept. 15, 1942 to July 15, 1944
Average: Large Cities	+1.8	+27.9	+25.1	+ 8.7	+ 7.0
New England:					
Boston	+1.7	+26.1	+23.5	+ 7.9	+ 5.3
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+0.2	+28.4	+24.1	+ 5.0	+ 5.0
New York	+2.2	+27.7	+25.1	+11.6	+ 8.7
Philadelphia	+1.9	+27.7	+25.9	+ 8.9	+ 6.8
Pittsburgh	+2.3	+28.9	+25.3	+ 9.5	+ 7.9
East North Central:					
Chicago	+2.9	+27.8	+24.6	+ 8.2	+ 7.5
Cincinnati	+2.4	+30.5	+27.5	+ 9.6	+ 7.6
Cleveland	+1.9	+30.3	+27.7	+ 9.7	+ 8.9
Detroit	+1.4	+29.7	+26.5	+ 7.6	+ 7.9
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+2.8	+26.0	+26.2	+ 8.9	+ 8.3
Minneapolis	+1.7	+23.4	+20.8	+ 6.1	+ 5.3
St. Louis	+1.9	+27.9	+24.3	+ 8.6	+ 7.6
South Atlantic:					
Baltimore	+1.8	+30.0	+27.4	+ 8.5	+ 7.1
Savannah	+1.8	+35.6	+32.8	+11.4	+10.3
Washington, D. C.	+0.9	+26.1	+24.4	+ 8.4	+ 6.1
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+3.2	+32.2	+28.1	+ 9.7	+ 9.6
West South Central:					
Houston	+1.7	+23.5	+22.0	+ 7.1	+ 5.4
Mountain:					
Denver	+2.6	+27.7	+25.9	+ 8.9	+ 7.4
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+1.0	+25.9	+23.4	+ 7.1	+ 3.9
San Francisco	+3.2	+30.2	+27.0	+ 9.9	+ 6.9
Seattle	+2.6	+29.1	+26.8	+ 6.8	+ 5.5

These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 4

Report for July 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*

Region and city	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	126.1 <u>1/</u>	137.4 <u>2/</u>	138.2 <u>3/</u>	109.8 <u>4/</u>	138.5 <u>3/</u>	121.8 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	122.4	131.9	136.1	120.0	132.9	116.4
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	126.5	135.0	135.7	106.9	141.7	125.1
New York	126.4	138.1	142.6	113.7	127.3	124.2
Philadelphia	124.9	134.8	138.8	109.0	137.7	119.6
Pittsburgh	126.8	136.7	154.8	112.4	134.0	119.0
East North Central:						
Chicago	126.1	138.6	132.1	105.1	138.7	119.4
Cincinnati	127.0	139.2	137.5	106.0	143.3	122.7
Cleveland	130.3	144.6	139.5	115.0	138.5	120.5
Detroit	127.8	136.5	136.4	112.3	141.2	128.0
West North Central:						
Kansas City	124.2	132.5	134.6	110.2	126.9	124.9
Minneapolis	123.0	131.3	135.7	104.9	132.5	121.3
St. Louis	125.5	141.9	137.7	107.2	125.7	117.3
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	128.3	143.1	143.9	108.9	145.1	120.7
Savannah	134.7	152.9	139.8	111.8	137.9	128.7
Washington, D. C.	124.3	134.9	146.7	108.8	134.6	125.7
East South Central:						
Birmingham	130.2	141.4	138.5	105.8	134.9	124.4
West South Central:						
Houston	124.4	137.0	135.7	91.1	127.7	122.8
Mountain:						
Denver	125.9	140.6	130.1	104.1	143.2	120.1
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	126.5	138.5	137.5	92.5	132.3	125.0
San Francisco	129.3	142.4	136.8	92.6	137.4	129.6
Seattle	129.5	141.9	138.2	102.4	129.2	130.6

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

- 1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates, March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.
2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the 15th of the month.
3/ Based on data for 21 cities.
4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

Table 5. Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined ^{1/}
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity Group	1944		1943	1942	1941	1939
	2/July 18	June 13	July 13	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All foods	137.4	135.7	139.0	126.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	108.6	108.4	107.8	105.4	94.9	93.4
Meats	129.3	129.8	130.9	130.6	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	118.7	118.8	120.2	126.0	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.1	112.0	115.3	124.0	86.1	88.0
Lamb	135.0	134.8	136.5	133.7	98.7	98.8
Chickens	151.4	154.1	147.1	133.7	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	197.5	196.7	208.3	168.2	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	133.6	133.5	133.4	127.7	105.1	93.1
Eggs	148.9	129.1	153.6	155.2	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	176.9	174.0	180.5	129.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	188.3	184.6	192.9	130.3	93.4	92.8
Canned	129.0	129.2	130.5	123.8	91.4	91.6
Dried	164.6	164.1	159.0	143.4	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.3	124.3	124.5	123.8	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	122.9	123.1	126.5	120.7	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	126.6	126.5	126.4	127.0	95.3	95.6

^{1/} The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.

^{2/} Preliminary.

Table 5-A. Percent Change

Commodity Group	June 13	July 13	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1944 to	1943 to	1942 to	1941 to	1939 to
	July 18	July 18	July 18	July 18	July 18
	1944	1944	1944	1944	1944
All foods	+ 1.3	-1.2	+ 8.5	+ 40.5	+ 47.0
Cereals and bakery products	+ .2	+ .7	+ 3.0	+ 14.4	+ 16.3
Meats	- .4	-1.2	- 1.0	+ 27.9	+ 35.1
Beef and veal	- .1	-1.2	- 5.8	+ 8.5	+ 19.2
Pork	+ .1	-2.8	- 9.6	+ 30.2	+ 27.4
Lamb	+ .1	-1.1	+ 1.0	+ 36.8	+ 36.6
Chickens	- 1.8	+2.9	+13.2	+ 55.8	+ 60.0
Fish, fresh and canned	+ .4	-5.2	+17.4	+ 66.4	+ 98.3
Dairy products	+ .1	+ .1	+ 4.6	+ 27.1	+ 43.5
Eggs	+15.3	-3.1	- 4.1	+ 52.9	+ 64.2
Fruits and vegetables	+ 1.7	-2.0	+36.4	+ 89.6	+ 91.5
Fresh	+ 2.0	-2.4	+44.5	+101.6	+102.9
Canned	- .2	-1.1	+ 4.2	+ 41.1	+ 40.8
Dried	+ .3	+3.5	+14.8	+ 65.3	+ 82.3
Beverages	0	- .2	+ .4	+ 36.7	+ 31.0
Fats and oils	- .2	-2.8	+ 1.8	+ 53.1	+ 45.4
Sugar and sweets	+ .1	+ .2	- .3	+ 32.8	+ 32.4

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

Region and City	Percent Change - June 13, 1944 to July 18, 1944								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
United States	+1.3	+0.2	-0.4	+0.1	+15.3	+ 1.7	0.0	-0.2	+0.1
New England:									
Boston	+1.2	+ .3	- .6	- .2	+23.3	+ .2	- .1	0	- .2
Bridgeport	+3.1	+ .2	-1.0	0	+18.9	+10.1	+ .2	- .2	- .1
Fall River	+2.9	+ .1	- .8	+ .1	+25.6	+ 7.8	0	- .4	- .4
Manchester	+3.4	+ .1	- .5	- .2	+30.0	+10.6	0	+ .3	- .3
New Haven	+2.0	+ .2	-1.0	0	+20.8	+ 5.5	+ .1	+ .1	0
Portland, Me.	+3.1	+ .2	- .8	0	+30.9	+ 6.4	0	- .2	0
Providence	+1.6	+ .2	-1.2	- .1	+23.2	+ 3.1	- .1	+ .2	+ .8
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	+ .3	+ .2	- .2	- .1	+10.1	- .7	0	0	0
Newark	+1.1	0	- .5	0	+15.8	+ 1.2	0	- .1	+ .2
New York	+1.0	+ .2	- .9	0	+13.3	+ 1.7	+ .1	0	+ .1
Philadelphia	+ .2	- .2	- .8	+ .3	+20.6	- 3.4	+ .1	0	0
Pittsburgh	+ .7	0	+ .1	+ .2	+11.7	- .3	+ .1	0	0
Rochester	+1.9	+ .1	+ .4	+ .1	+22.6	+ 2.5	- .2	0	0
Scranton	+2.0	+ .1	+ .2	+ .1	+28.6	+ 1.5	+ .2	- .7	0
East North Central:									
Chicago	+2.4	+1.9	+ .6	+ .1	+10.3	+ 5.6	+ .1	- .2	+1.3
Cincinnati	+ .6	+ .4	- .4	0	+20.2	- .6	0	-1.6	- .8
Cleveland	+2.3	+ .1	- .4	+ .1	+13.8	+ 5.7	- .3	0	- .3
Columbus, Ohio	+1.7	+ .1	0	0	+13.5	+ 4.2	0	-1.0	- .6
Detroit	+2.6	+ .1	+ .2	0	+14.5	+ 7.1	+ .1	- .2	0
Indianapolis	+1.5	+ .3	- .4	+ .1	+17.2	+ 2.8	0	0	0
Milwaukee	+1.4	- .2	- .2	- .2	+ 7.2	+ 4.5	- .3	- .4	+ .2
Peoria	+1.6	- .2	+ .3	+ .1	+10.9	+ 3.8	0	0	0
Springfield, Ill.	+2.3	+ .3	+ .6	0	+18.7	+ 5.6	0	- .2	- .2
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	+2.3	- .2	0	+ .1	+10.0	+ 6.5	+ .1	0	+ .2
Kansas City	+1.5	- .2	- .4	+ .1	+13.7	+ 3.2	0	+ .1	+ .4
Minneapolis	+1.8	+ .1	- .1	+ .1	+ 9.0	+ 5.5	0	- .3	- .1
Omaha	- .5	+ .2	- .2	- .1	+10.0	- 3.8	0	- .4	0
St. Louis	+2.3	0	- .2	0	+12.8	+ 6.1	0	-1.6	0
St. Paul	+1.2	+ .2	- .7	- .1	+ 7.4	+ 4.4	+ .1	+ .2	0
Wichita	+1.5	+ .1	- .4	- .2	+13.4	+ 3.8	- .7	- .3	0

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods (Cont'd)

Region and City	Percent Change - June 13, 1944 to July 18, 1944								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bov- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	+2.1	-0.2	+0.8	-0.5	+19.5	+ 5.1	-0.2	0.0	0.0
Baltimore	+1.3	+ .2	- .6	+ .2	+17.7	+ 1.8	- .2	- .7	- .2
Charleston, S.C.	+1.8	+ .4	0	+ .1	+17.0	+ 4.2	- .1	0	0
Jacksonville	+1.3	+ .5	+ .9	0	+12.8	+ .7	- .1	- .3	0
Norfolk	+ .8	+ .2	+ .6	- .1	+14.9	- .4	- .1	- .1	+ .3
Richmond	+ .3	+ .1	+ .7	- .2	+17.3	- 4.8	- .4	- .6	+ .2
Savannah	+1.8	+ .2	+ .4	+ .1	+13.3	+ 5.4	- .2	- .9	- .2
Washington, D.C.	+ .3	- .3	-1.1	+ .2	+19.3	- 3.1	- .4	- .6	- .2
Winston-Salem	+ .7	+ .1	0	+ .1	+16.6	- 1.1	0	0	0
East South Central:									
Birmingham	+1.1	- .4	- .4	- .1	+16.5	- .2	0	0	0
Jackson	- .6	0	- .8	0	+15.1	- 3.7	- .2	-2.0	0
Knoxville	+2.1	- .2	- .1	- .1	+ 8.5	+ 7.2	0	0	+ .5
Louisville	+ .4	- .3	0	0	+17.5	- 2.7	0	+ .2	0
Memphis	+1.0	+1.4	-1.3	+ .1	+ 8.6	+ 2.1	- .5	- .1	- .1
Mobile	+1.6	+ .6	- .1	0	+16.9	+ 4.5	+ .2	- .1	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	+1.1	- .3	+ .2	0	+16.6	+ 1.9	0	- .3	-1.1
Houston	+1.5	- .1	+ .1	0	+11.1	+ 3.8	+ .4	- .1	0
Little Rock	+1.5	0	- .5	0	+14.6	+ 3.9	0	- .1	0
New Orleans	+1.8	+ .1	- .6	+ .1	+ 9.9	+ 6.2	- .3	- .4	- .4
Mountain:									
Butte	+1.5	0	-2.4	0	+ 6.6	+ 6.3	0	0	0
Denver	+2.3	0	- .3	0	+11.4	+ 6.1	- .3	- .2	- .4
Salt Lake City	+1.1	+ .2	- .1	+ .1	+12.0	+ 1.8	+ .1	- .5	-1.6
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	- .5	- .1	-1.0	- .1	+15.7	- 4.1	- .2	- .2	+ .4
Portland, Oreg.	+1.2	0	- .5	0	+23.1	- .2	+ .4	- .1	- .2
San Francisco	- .1	- .4	- .3	0	+15.5	- 3.9	+ .6	0	0
Seattle	+1.1	+ .6	- .6	+ .1	+ 2.6	+ 4.1	- .2	- .1	0

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity		July 18 1944 Average Prices Cents	Percent Change				
			June 13 1944 to July 18 1944	July 13 1943 to July 18 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to July 18 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to July 18 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to July 18 1944
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.8	-0.2	+ 5.5	+19.3	+56.5	+81.0
Macaroni	lb.	15.7	0	+ .6	+11.3	+13.8	+12.1
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.0	- .9	- 1.7	- 4.2	- 2.1	- 5.0
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.6	+1.5	0	- 5.7	- 7.0	- 5.7
Corn meal	lb.	6.3	+1.6	+10.5	+26.0	+50.0	+57.5
*Rice	"	12.8	- .8	+ 1.6	+ 2.4	+62.0	+70.7
Rolled oats	"	9.8	+4.3	+14.0	+12.6	+38.0	+38.0
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	12.1	0	+15.2	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	0	- 1.1	+ 1.1	+12.8	+12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.7	0	- 1.0	+ 2.1	+11.5	+10.2
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	- 2.0	+ 2.1	+10.0	+ 7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	28.4	-1.0	- .4	+ 5.2	+13.1	<u>2/</u>
Soda crackers	"	18.9	0	+ 5.0	+13.9	+26.0	+27.7
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	41.6	0	- 1.7	- 5.9	+ 7.8	+14.3
Rib roast	"	33.4	- .9	- 2.1	- 3.7	+ 6.0	+15.6
Chuck roast	"	28.8	- .3	- 1.0	- 4.0	+14.3	+28.0
*Stew meat	"	31.3	- .6	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver	"	37.3	0	+ 1.4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Hamburger	"	27.9	- .4	- 2.8	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	45.1	0	- 2.6	-17.9	- .2	+ 6.1
*Roast, boned and rolled	"	35.0	0	- 1.4	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:							
Chops	"	37.3	0	- 2.6	-13.5	+28.2	+20.7
Bacon, sliced	"	41.1	- .2	- 3.7	+ .5	+36.5	+35.2
Ham, sliced	"	50.9	- .4	- 4.3	-14.6	+12.9	+ 9.7
Ham, whole	"	35.5	- .3	- 2.2	- 7.3	+35.5	+29.6
Salt pork	"	22.2	- .9	- 3.9	- 6.7	+32.9	+44.2
*Liver	"	22.0	0	- 2.7	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage	"	38.0	- .5	- 1.3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologna, big	"	34.1	- .3	- 1.4	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:							
Leg	"	40.1	0	- 1.0	+ 5.8	+44.2	+45.3
Rib chops	"	45.4	+ .2	- 2.4	- 3.6	+29.7	+23.7

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity		July 18 1944 Average Prices Cents	Percent Change				
			June 13 1944 to July 18 1944	July 13 1943 to July 18 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to July 18 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to July 18 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to July 18 1944
MEATS: (Continued)							
Poultry:							
Roasting chickens	2/ lb.	45.1	- 1.8	+ 2.9	+13.2	+55.8	+60.0
Fish:							
Fish (fresh, frozen)	2/ lb.	1/	+ .5	- 6.2	+18.9	+69.6	+100.1
Salmon, pink	16 oz. can	23.7	0	- .8	+ 8.7	+51.0	+85.2
*Salmon, red	"	41.9	- .9	+ 1.9	+ 3.2	+58.7	+81.4
DAIRY PRODUCTS:							
Butter	lb.	50.0	+ .2	- .8	+ 1.2	+31.6	+62.9
Cheese	"	36.1	+ .3	- 5.2	+ 5.2	+33.7	+46.2
Milk, fresh (delivered)	qt.	15.6	0	+ .6	+ 4.0	+20.0	+30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery)	"	14.5	0	+ .7	+ 7.4	+21.8	+31.8
Milk, evaporated	14 1/2 oz. can	10.0	0	- 1.0	+12.4	+40.8	+49.3
EGGS:							
Eggs, fresh	2/ doz.	52.7	+15.3	- 3.1	- 4.1	+52.9	+64.2
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:							
Fresh fruits and vegetables:							
Fresh fruits:							
Apples	lb.	13.6	+12.4	0	+119.4	+161.5	+209.1
Bananas	"	11.2	- .9	- 5.9	+ 8.7	+69.7	+83.6
Oranges	doz.	50.8	+ 5.4	+ 5.8	+29.9	+86.1	+61.3
*Grapefruit	each	10.1	+ 9.8	+ 1.0	+ 7.4	3/	3/
Fresh vegetables:							
Beans, green	lb.	13.4	-19.3	-16.8	+15.5	- 4.3	+86.1
Cabbage	"	4.8	-11.1	-26.2	+23.1	+41.2	+23.1
Carrots	bunch	8.6	+ 1.2	+ 3.6	+24.6	+43.3	+87.0
Lettuce	head	10.2	-11.3	-24.4	-18.4	+21.4	+21.4
Onions	lb.	7.2	+10.8	-18.2	+60.0	+100.0	+100.0
Potatoes	15 lb.	79.5	+ 1.0	+11.2	+64.6	+172.3	+131.1
Spinach	lb.	10.3	+ 6.2	-29.0	- 3.7	+41.1	+32.1
Sweetpotatoes	"	13.5	+ 6.3	-21.5	+110.9	+170.0	+145.5
*Beets	bunch	7.5	-29.9	-11.8	4/	4/	4/
Canned fruits and vegetables:							
Canned fruits:							
Peaches	# 2 1/2 can	27.7	+ .7	+ 3.0	+15.4	+67.9	+62.0
Pineapple	"	27.3	- .7	- 2.5	- 3.5	+30.6	+30.0
Grapefruit juice	# 2 can	14.4	0	+ .7	+16.1	3/	3/

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity		July 18 1944 Average Prices Cents	Percent Change				
			June 13 1944 to July 18 1944	July 13 1943 to July 18 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to July 18 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to July 18 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to July 18 1944
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green	#2 can	13.1	+ .8	-10.3	- 4.4	+31.0	+31.0
Corn	"	14.4	0	+ 2.9	+ 8.3	+34.6	+38.5
Peas	"	13.1	0	-12.1	-10.3	- .8	- 3.7
Tomatoes	"	11.9	0	- 5.6	+ 2.6	+41.7	+38.4
*Soup, vegetable 11 oz. can		13.4	0	+ 2.3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits and vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes	lb.	17.1	0	+ 2.4	+15.5	+78.1	+94.3
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans	lb.	10.7	0	+ 7.0	+17.6	+64.6	+84.5
*Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle	oz.	3.7	0	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee	lb.	30.0	0	0	+ 4.5	+44.9	+34.5
Tea	$\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	23.9	0	+ 9.1	+ 6.7	+35.8	+39.0
*Cocoa	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	10.2	0	+13.3	0	+12.1	+18.6
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard	lb.	18.6	- .5	- 2.1	+ 7.5	+100.0	+87.9
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons	lb.	20.2	0	+ 1.5	+ 3.6	+78.8	+72.6
In other containers	"	24.7	0	- .4	+ 1.2	+35.0	+22.3
Salad dressing	pt.	25.6	0	+ 1.6	+ 1.6	+27.4	<u>2/</u>
Oleomargarine	lb.	24.2	+ .4	+ 2.1	+ 8.0	+55.1	+46.7
Peanut butter	"	28.4	0	-14.2	+ 2.2	+58.7	+58.7
*Oil, cooking or salad	pt.	30.6	+1.7	+ 1.0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar	lb.	6.8	0	0	- 1.4	+33.3	+30.8
Corn sirup	24 oz.	15.8	0	+ .6	+ 4.6	+16.2	+15.3
*Molasses	16 oz.	15.8	+ .6	+ .6	+ 6.0	+17.9	+16.2
*Apple butter	16 oz.	12.7	-3.8	- 2.3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	July 18	June 13	July 13	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	June 13	July 13	Sept. 15	Jan. 14
	1944	1944	1943	1942	1941	1944	1943	1942	1941
	2/					to July 18 1944	to July 18 1944	to July 18 1944	to July 18 1944
United States	137.4	135.7	139.0	126.6	97.8	+ 1.3	- 1.2	+ 8.5	+40.5
New England:									
Boston	131.9	130.4	132.5	124.4	95.2	+ 1.2	- .5	+ 6.0	+38.6
Bridgeport	135.5	131.4	139.1	127.1	96.5	+ 3.1	- 2.6	+ 6.6	+40.4
Fall River	132.9	129.2	135.6	125.7	97.5	+ 2.9	- 2.0	+ 5.7	+36.3
Manchester	135.3	130.9	136.6	126.8	96.6	+ 3.4	- 1.0	+ 6.7	+40.1
New Haven	135.3	132.6	138.2	126.2	95.7	+ 2.0	- 2.1	+ 7.2	+41.4
Portland, Maine	135.1	131.1	136.1	125.8	95.3	+ 3.1	- .7	+ 7.4	+41.8
Providence	135.5	133.4	135.8	126.3	96.3	+ 1.6	- .2	+ 7.3	+40.7
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	135.0	134.6	140.5	127.6	100.2	+ .3	- 3.9	+ 5.8	+34.7
Newark	139.2	137.7	141.2	128.0	98.8	+ 1.1	- 1.4	+ 8.8	+40.9
New York	138.1	136.8	140.5	125.2	99.5	+ 1.0	- 1.7	+10.3	+38.8
Philadelphia	134.8	134.5	135.8	123.9	95.0	+ .2	- .7	+ 8.8	+41.9
Pittsburgh	136.7	135.8	138.9	125.9	98.0	+ .7	- 1.6	+ 8.6	+39.5
Rochester	133.8	131.3	134.8	125.2	99.9	+ 1.9	- .7	+ 6.9	+33.9
Scranton	138.6	135.9	139.6	125.6	97.5	+ 2.0	- .7	+10.4	+42.2
East North Central:									
Chicago	138.6	135.4	137.1	124.9	98.2	+ 2.4	+ 1.1	+11.0	+41.1
Cincinnati	139.2	138.4	137.9	126.9	96.5	+ .6	+ .9	+ 9.7	+44.2
Cleveland	144.6	141.3	145.0	127.3	99.2	+ 2.3	- .3	+13.6	+45.8
Columbus, Ohio	129.2	127.1	130.8	119.6	93.4	+ 1.7	- 1.2	+ 8.0	+38.3
Detroit	136.5	133.0	138.8	124.7	97.0	+ 2.6	- 1.7	+ 9.5	+40.7
Indianapolis	134.6	132.6	137.0	127.1	98.2	+ 1.5	- 1.8	+ 5.9	+37.1
Milwaukee	137.4	135.5	136.2	121.0	95.9	+ 1.4	+ .9	+13.6	+43.3
Peoria	140.4	138.2	143.2	130.7	99.0	+ 1.6	- 2.0	+ 7.4	+41.8
Springfield, Ill.	144.2	140.9	144.2	130.2	96.2	+ 2.3	0	+10.8	+49.9
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids 4/	140.5	137.3	139.6	121.2	95.9	+ 2.3	+ .6	+15.9	+46.5
Kansas City	132.5	130.5	132.0	120.7	92.4	+ 1.5	+ .4	+ 9.8	+43.4
Minneapolis	131.3	129.0	131.3	123.3	99.0	+ 1.8	0	+ 6.5	+32.6
Omaha	130.4	131.1	133.3	123.2	97.9	- .5	- 2.2	+ 5.8	+33.2
St. Louis	141.9	138.7	141.6	126.7	99.2	+ 2.3	+ .2	+12.0	+43.0
St. Paul	129.6	128.1	131.2	120.8	98.6	+ 1.2	- 1.2	+ 7.3	+31.4
Wichita 4/	148.4	146.2	146.7	132.0	97.2	+ 1.5	+ 1.2	+12.4	+52.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941 and other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100					Percent Change			
	July 18	June 13	July 13	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	June 13	July 13	Sept. 15	Jan. 14
	1944	1944	1943	1942	1941	1944	1943	1942	1941
	2/ 1944					to July 18 1944	to July 18 1944	to July 18 1944	to July 18 1944
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	138.1	135.2	141.5	125.9	94.3	+ 2.1	- 2.4	+ 9.7	+46.4
Baltimore	143.1	141.2	146.3	131.2	97.9	+ 1.3	- 2.2	+ 9.1	+46.2
Charleston, S.C.	133.0	130.6	136.4	126.6	95.9	+ 1.8	- 2.5	+ 5.1	+38.7
Jacksonville	144.8	142.9	152.5	134.2	98.8	+ 1.3	- 5.0	+ 7.9	+46.6
Norfolk 3/	143.2	142.0	150.4	131.9	95.8	+ .8	- 4.8	+ 8.6	+49.5
Richmond	134.4	134.0	136.9	126.2	93.7	+ .3	- 1.8	+ 6.5	+43.4
Savannah	152.9	150.2	153.0	133.3	100.5	+ 1.8	- .1	+14.7	+52.1
Washington, D.C.	134.9	135.3	140.1	128.1	97.7	- .3	- 3.7	+ 5.3	+38.1
Winston-Salem 4/	136.0	135.1	136.5	119.8	93.7	+ .7	- .4	+13.5	+45.1
East South Central:									
Birmingham	141.4	139.8	140.9	125.3	96.0	+ 1.1	+ .4	+12.8	+47.3
Jackson 4/	138.5	139.3	148.1	141.0	105.3	- .6	- 6.5	- 1.8	+31.5
Knoxville 4/	157.3	154.1	155.8	134.2	97.1	+ 2.1	+ 1.0	+17.2	+62.0
Louisville	133.4	132.9	134.9	124.2	95.5	+ .4	- 1.1	+ 7.4	+39.7
Memphis	146.1	144.7	147.7	129.7	94.2	+ 1.0	- 1.1	+12.6	+55.1
Mobile	144.4	142.1	148.6	133.9	97.9	+ 1.6	- 2.8	+ 7.8	+47.5
West South Central:									
Dallas	132.3	130.8	135.5	123.7	92.6	+ 1.1	- 2.4	+ 7.0	+42.9
Houston	137.0	135.0	137.4	130.8	102.6	+ 1.5	- .3	+ 4.7	+33.5
Little Rock	135.8	133.8	135.2	129.2	95.6	+ 1.5	+ .4	+ 5.1	+42.1
New Orleans	149.6	146.9	153.8	135.9	101.9	+ 1.8	- 2.7	+10.1	+46.8
Mountain:									
Butte	134.8	132.8	138.6	124.6	98.7	+ 1.5	- 2.7	+ 8.2	+36.6
Denver	140.6	137.5	138.4	126.8	94.8	+ 2.3	+ 1.6	+10.9	+48.3
Salt Lake City	141.1	139.5	142.2	130.1	97.5	+ 1.1	- .8	+ 8.5	+44.7
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	138.5	139.2	142.4	137.9	101.8	- .5	- 2.7	+ .4	+36.1
Portland, Oreg.	146.2	144.4	145.7	141.2	101.7	+ 1.2	+ .3	+ 3.5	+43.8
San Francisco	142.4	142.5	140.0	133.5	99.6	- .1	+ 1.7	+ 6.7	+43.0
Seattle	141.9	140.4	140.9	137.3	101.0	+ 1.1	+ .7	+ 3.4	+40.5

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

4/ June 1940 equals 100.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD - AUGUST 1944

The BLS index indicates average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. The items covered represented 70 percent of the expenditures of families who had incomes ranging from \$1250 to \$2000 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods and forced changes in housing and eating away from home.

It does not measure changes in total "living costs" — that is, in the total amount families spend for living. Income taxes and bond subscriptions are not included.

Higher prices for clothing and seasonally higher prices for eggs were chiefly responsible for the 0.2 percent increase in average retail prices of living essentials between mid-July and mid-August, Secretary of Labor Perkins reported today.

"During the five years of the war in Europe, prices of goods important in the purchases of moderate-income families have increased 28 percent, contrasted to the 73 percent rise in the corresponding period in 1914-19," she said. About one-tenth of the advance during the present war has occurred in the year ending August 15, 1944.

"During the month ending in mid-August, average prices of all major groups of foods except eggs either decreased or remained unchanged, but the 7 percent seasonal advance in egg prices more than offset these other declines in the cost of foods. In the 56 cities surveyed in August, egg prices ranged from 35 cents to 69 cents, and on the average showed an advance of about 4 cents over July prices.

"Fresh fruits and vegetables showed the greatest decrease over the month. Seasonal declines of 19 percent in the price of apples, approximately 10 percent for onions, and 9 percent for sweet potatoes were not offset by increases for green beans, cabbage, spinach, carrots, lettuce, and white potatoes. With the exception of eggs and fruits and vegetables, all other food groups included in the index showed only minor changes. Declines in beef and pork prices, unusual at this time of year, together with a one percent decrease in prices of roasting chickens, resulted in a slight drop for meats and fish as a group.

"Changes in food prices between mid-July and mid-August showed considerable variation between cities, ranging from a decrease of 2.5 percent to an advance of 3.2 percent. In the South Atlantic and East and West South Central cities, food

prices generally advanced, due to large seasonal increases in prices of eggs and fruits and vegetables, while decreases were reported in all cities surveyed in the West North Central and Mountain regions.

"Higher prices for women's winter cloth coats were chiefly accountable for the 0.7 percent rise in clothing costs between mid-July and mid-August. The increase in the federal excise tax on furs, which became effective during the spring, contributed to the advance for fur-trimmed coats, and disappearance of lower-price lines, especially of untrimmed sport coats, was also a factor. Retailers generally reported that the quality of woolen fabrics in this year's coats is better than last year. Small increases for some other clothing resulted primarily from unavailability of the lower-priced lines.

"The present cigarette shortage is reflected in price advances in several cities, as more retailers limited sales to one pack to a customer, thus removing the saving resulting from purchases of two packs at a time. Newspaper prices in New York City went up. Scattered increases in housefurnishings brought average costs of this group in the family budget up 0.1 percent above the level of July 15. Fuel, electricity and ice charges on the average remained unchanged.

"Rents are surveyed only during the quarterly months of March, June, September, and December, and are not available for August."

Table 1

Report for August 15, 1944

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COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes 1935-1939 = 100.0*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: August 15	123.4	137.2	129.6	108.0	107.6	125.9	116.5
1944: July 15	126.1	137.4	138.2	<u>1/</u>	109.8	138.5	121.8
August 15	126.3	137.7	139.1	<u>1/</u>	109.8	138.7	122.0

Table 1a

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent <u>2/</u>	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
July 15, 1944 to August 15, 1944	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.7	<u>1/</u>	0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
August 15, 1943 to August 15, 1944	+ 2.4	+ 0.4	+ 7.3	+ 0.1	+ 2.0	+10.2	+ 4.7
Sept. 15, 1942 to August 15, 1944	+ 7.2	+ 8.8	+10.6	+ 0.1	+ 3.4	+12.2	+ 9.5
May 15, 1942 to August 15, 1944	+ 8.9	+13.2	+10.2	- 1.6	+ 4.7	+13.5	+10.0
Jan. 15, 1941 to August 15, 1944	+25.3	+40.8	+38.1	+ 3.0	+ 8.9	+38.6	+19.7
August 15, 1939 to August 15, 1944	+28.1	+47.3	+38.7	+ 3.6	+12.6	+37.9	+21.5

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.

2/ Changes through June 15, 1944.

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change Between July 15, 1944 and August 15, 1944 by Groups*

Region and city	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+0.2 <u>1/</u>	+0.2 <u>2/</u>	+0.7 <u>3/</u>	0 <u>4/</u>	+0.1 <u>3/</u>	+0.2 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	+0.3	+0.2	+1.0	0	+0.6	+0.4
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	-0.2	-0.7	+0.4	0	0	0
New York	+0.6	+0.6	+0.8	+0.1	+0.1	+0.6
Philadelphia	+0.5	+1.0	+0.4	0	+0.2	0
Pittsburgh	+0.8	+1.5	+1.2	0	+0.4	0
East North Central:						
Chicago	-0.4	-1.1	+0.5	0	+0.1	0
Cincinnati	-0.5	-1.7	+0.7	+0.1	+0.7	+0.4
Cleveland	0	-0.2	+0.6	+0.3	+0.1	0
Detroit	-0.4	-1.5	+1.1	0	-0.1	0
West North Central:						
Kansas City	-0.2	-1.0	+1.0	0	+0.2	0
Minneapolis	-0.2	-0.6	+0.1	0	0	+0.2
St. Louis	-0.5	-1.3	+0.4	0	-0.1	0
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	+0.2	+0.3	+1.0	+0.1	+0.1	0
Savannah	+0.6	+1.2	+0.6	+0.2	0	0
Washington, D. C.	+0.5	+1.3	+0.1	+0.1	0	+0.1
East South Central:						
Birmingham	+1.2	+2.8	+0.8	+0.2	+1.0	0
West South Central:						
Houston	+0.2	+0.6	+0.4	0	0	+0.1
Mountain:						
Denver	-1.0	-2.5	+0.5	0	+0.1	0
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	+0.9	+1.9	+0.4	0	0	0
San Francisco	+0.1	0	+0.6	0	+0.3	0
Seattle	+0.1	-0.2	+0.8	+1.1	+0.1	0

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates - March 15, June 15, September 15 & December 15.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the 15th of the month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and Other Specified Dates*

Region and city	Aug. 15, 1943 to Aug. 15, 1944	Aug. 15, 1939 to Aug. 15, 1944	Jan. 1, 1941 to Aug. 15, 1944	May 15, 1942 to Aug. 15, 1944	Sept. 15, 1942 to Aug. 15, 1944
Average: Large Cities	+2.4	+28.1	+25.3	+ 8.9	+ 7.2
New England:					
Boston	+2.3	+26.5	+23.9	+ 8.3	+ 5.7
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+0.6	+28.1	+23.8	+ 4.7	+ 4.7
New York	+3.5	+28.4	+25.8	+12.2	+ 9.3
Philadelphia	+0.5	+28.3	+26.5	+ 9.4	+ 7.4
Pittsburgh	+3.2	+29.9	+26.3	+10.4	+ 8.8
East North Central:					
Chicago	+2.2	+27.3	+24.1	+ 7.8	+ 7.1
Cincinnati	+1.9	+29.9	+26.9	+ 9.1	+ 7.1
Cleveland	+1.8	+30.3	+27.7	+ 9.7	+ 8.9
Detroit	+2.2	+29.2	+26.0	+ 7.2	+ 7.5
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+2.6	+25.7	+25.9	+ 8.6	+ 8.0
Minneapolis	+1.7	+23.2	+20.6	+ 6.0	+ 4.1
St. Louis	+1.8	+27.3	+23.7	+ 8.0	+ 7.1
South Atlantic:					
Baltimore	+2.4	+30.3	+27.7	+ 8.8	+ 7.3
Savannah	+2.6	+36.5	+33.6	+12.1	+11.0
Washington, D. C.	+1.5	+26.7	+25.0	+ 8.9	+ 6.7
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+4.1	+33.8	+29.7	+11.0	+10.9
West South Central:					
Houston	+2.2	+23.8	+22.3	+ 7.3	+ 5.7
Mountain:					
Denver	+3.0	+26.5	+24.7	+ 7.9	+ 6.4
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+2.3	+27.0	+24.5	+ 8.0	+ 4.8
San Francisco	+4.1	+30.3	+27.1	+10.0	+ 7.0
Seattle	+3.0	+29.2	+26.9	+ 6.9	+ 5.6

* These percents of change are based on indexes of cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 4

Report for August 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*

Region and city	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	126.3 <u>1/</u>	137.7 <u>2/</u>	139.1 <u>3/</u>	109.8 <u>4/</u>	138.7 <u>3/</u>	122.0 <u>2/</u>
New England:						
Boston	122.8	132.2	137.5	120.0	133.7	116.9
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	126.2	134.0	136.2	106.9	141.7	125.1
New York	127.1	138.9	143.8	113.8	127.4	124.9
Philadelphia	125.5	136.1	139.4	109.0	138.0	119.6
Pittsburgh	127.8	138.7	156.7	112.4	134.5	119.0
East North Central:						
Chicago	125.6	137.1	132.7	105.1	138.8	119.4
Cincinnati	126.4	136.8	138.5	106.1	144.3	123.2
Cleveland	130.3	144.3	140.3	115.4	138.6	120.5
Detroit	127.3	134.4	137.9	112.3	141.0	128.0
West North Central:						
Kansas City	123.9	131.2	136.0	110.2	127.1	124.9
Minneapolis	122.8	130.5	135.9	104.9	132.5	121.6
St. Louis	124.9	140.1	138.2	107.2	125.6	117.3
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	128.6	143.5	145.3	109.0	145.2	120.7
Savannah	135.5	154.7	140.6	112.0	137.9	128.7
Washington, D. C.	124.9	136.7	146.8	108.9	134.6	125.8
East South Central:						
Birmingham	131.8	145.4	139.6	106.0	136.3	124.4
West South Central:						
Houston	124.7	137.8	136.3	91.1	127.7	122.9
Mountain:						
Denver	124.7	137.1	130.8	104.1	143.3	120.1
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	127.6	141.1	138.0	92.5	132.3	125.0
San Francisco	129.4	142.4	137.6	92.6	137.8	129.6
Seattle	129.6	141.6	139.3	103.5	129.3	130.6

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

- 1/ Rents surveyed at quarterly dates, March 15, June 15, September 15, December 15.
2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the 15th of the month.
3/ Based on data for 21 cities.
4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

Table 5. Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined ^{1/}
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity group	1944		1943	1942	1941	1939
	2/ Aug. 15	July 18	Aug. 17	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All foods	137.7	137.4	137.2	126.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	108.5	108.6	108.1	105.4	94.9	93.4
Meats	129.0	129.3	129.7	130.6	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	118.6	118.7	119.3	126.9	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.0	112.1	114.3	124.0	86.1	88.0
Lamb	134.7	135.0	135.0	133.7	98.7	98.8
Chickens	149.8	151.4	147.2	133.7	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	198.0	197.5	202.2	168.2	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	133.6	133.6	133.4	127.7	105.1	93.1
Eggs	159.4	148.9	167.4	155.2	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	175.6	176.9	169.8	129.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	186.6	3/188.4	179.3	130.3	93.4	92.8
Canned	129.3	129.0	130.2	123.8	91.4	91.6
Dried	165.0	164.6	159.9	143.4	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.3	124.3	125.3	123.8	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	122.7	122.9	126.5	120.7	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	126.5	126.6	126.6	127.0	95.3	95.6

1/ Aggregate costs of 54 foods in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined with the use of population weights.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

Table 5-A. Percent Change

Commodity group	July 18 1944 to Aug. 15 1944	Aug. 17 1943 to Aug. 15 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Aug. 15 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Aug. 15 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Aug. 15 1944
All foods	+ 0.2	+0.4	+ 8.8	+40.8	+ 47.3
Cereals and bakery products	- .1	+ .4	+ 2.9	+14.3	+ 16.2
Meats	- .2	- .5	- 1.2	+27.6	+ 34.8
Beef and veal	- .1	- .6	- 5.9	+ 8.4	+ 19.1
Pork	- .1	-2.0	- 9.7	+30.1	+ 27.3
Lamb	- .2	- .2	+ .7	+36.5	+ 36.3
Chickens	- 1.1	+1.8	+12.0	+54.1	+ 58.4
Fish, fresh and canned	+ .3	-2.1	+17.7	+66.8	+ 98.8
Dairy products	0	+ .1	+ 4.6	+27.1	+ 43.5
Eggs	+ 7.1	-4.8	+ 2.7	+63.7	+ 75.7
Fruits and vegetables	- .7	+3.4	+35.4	+88.2	+ 90.0
Fresh	- 1.0	+4.1	+43.2	+99.8	+101.1
Canned	+ .2	- .7	+ 4.4	+41.5	+ 41.2
Dried	+ .2	+3.2	+15.1	+65.7	+ 82.7
Beverages	0	- .8	+ .4	+36.7	+ 31.0
Fats and oils	- .2	-3.0	+ 1.7	+52.8	+ 45.2
Sugar and sweets	- .1	- .1	- .4	+32.7	+ 32.3

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

Region and city	Percent Change - July 18, 1944 to August 15, 1944								
	All foods	Cereals and bakery	Meats	Dairy products	Eggs	Fruits and veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and oils	Sugar and sweets
United States	+0.2	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	+ 7.1	-0.7	0.0	-0.2	-0.1
New England:									
Boston	+ .2	+ .2	- .1	0	+ 9.6	-1.5	0	0	- .1
Bridgeport	- .3	0	- .2	0	+ 9.4	-3.5	0	- .9	+ .1
Fall River	- .5	+ .1	+ .3	- .1	+ 9.5	-5.3	+ .4	+ .2	- .1
Manchester	- .2	0	+ .1	0	+ 6.3	-3.1	+ .1	0	- .6
New Haven	+ .5	- .2	- .3	0	+ 8.3	+ .2	+ .3	- .3	- .2
Portland, Maine	+1.0	- .1	+ .1	0	+ 7.7	+2.0	0	+ .1	+ .1
Providence	+1.0	0	+ .2	+ .1	+ 8.8	+1.4	+ .2	- .2	- .7
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	- .7	- .2	- .9	+ .1	+10.9	-4.6	0	- .1	0
Newark	- .6	+ .1	+ .7	+ .1	+ 7.0	-3.2	- .2	- .6	0
New York	+ .6	- .1	-1.1	+ .1	+ 6.9	+1.8	0	+ .2	+ .2
Philadelphia	+1.0	0	- .6	0	+ 6.5	+2.6	- .2	+ .1	0
Pittsburgh	+1.5	+ .1	+ .5	0	+ 8.4	+3.3	- .1	-1.0	-1.3
Rochester	- .6	- .3	+ .1	+ .1	+ 8.5	-6.2	- .1	- .1	+ .2
Scranton	+ .1	- .1	0	+ .4	+ 5.9	-1.4	0	0	+ .4
East North Central:									
Chicago	-1.1	-1.4	+ .2	0	+ 4.5	-4.9	0	0	+ .4
Cincinnati	-1.7	+ .1	- .7	0	+ 4.6	-5.9	- .1	- .1	- .2
Cleveland	- .2	+ .5	+ .2	+ .4	+ 8.4	-2.9	- .1	- .3	- .2
Columbus, Ohio	+ .8	- .2	- .1	0	+16.6	-1.4	- .4	- .3	- .1
Detroit	-1.5	0	- .2	+ .2	+ 8.6	-7.8	0	+ .2	+ .3
Indianapolis	- .1	0	- .2	0	+ 9.2	-3.1	0	0	+ .2
Milwaukee	- .7	- .3	- .2	0	+12.7	-4.9	+ .2	+ .4	- .1
Peoria	+ .5	- .1	- .3	0	+ 7.1	+ .7	- .2	+ .2	+2.5
Springfield, Ill.	-1.2	- .1	- .1	0	+ 2.3	-4.6	- .4	+ .2	+ .2
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	-1.0	+ .3	- .6	+ .1	+ 4.3	-4.2	- .2	+ .1	+ .6
Kansas City	-1.0	- .2	-1.0	0	+ .8	-3.0	0	0	0
Minneapolis	- .6	- .1	- .2	- .1	+ 4.2	-3.5	0	- .2	- .1
Omaha	- .5	+ .3	+ .1	0	+ .6	-2.8	0	- .1	- .5
St. Louis	-1.3	0	- .2	- .1	+ 2.7	-4.5	0	- .4	+ .5
St. Paul	- .8	0	- .5	0	+ 6.5	-5.7	0	+ .1	+ .1
Wichita	- .4	- .4	- .2	+ .1	+ 4.0	-2.5	0	+ .1	- .1

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods (Cont'd)

Region and city	Percent Change - July 18, 1944 to August 15, 1944								
	All foods	Cereals and bakery	Meats	Dairy products	Eggs	Fruits and veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and oils	Sugar and sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	+0.8	-0.2	-0.5	0.0	+ 5.7	+ 3.1	-0.1	0.0	+0.7
Baltimore	+ .3	0	- .5	+ .1	+ 8.4	- .3	- .1	- .2	+ .4
Charleston, S.C.	+1.8	- .1	+1.1	0	+ 6.7	+ 5.3	0	- .3	+ .2
Jacksonville	+2.8	- .2	- .8	+ .2	+ 7.2	+10.2	0	+ .1	0
Norfolk	+1.1	- .2	0	- .1	+ 7.0	+ 3.4	+ .2	0	0
Richmond	+1.6	- .3	- .1	0	+ 7.8	+ 4.2	+ .1	- .1	0
Savannah	+1.2	0	+ .4	- .1	+ 7.6	+ 3.3	0	- .2	+ .3
Washington, D.C.	+1.3	+ .1	+ .7	0	+ 3.7	+ 3.1	0	+ .1	0
Winston-Salem	+2.1	+ .2	- .1	- .1	+ 7.3	+ 7.5	- .2	0	0
East South Central:									
Birmingham	+2.8	-1.1	- .1	- .2	+ 6.7	+10.2	0	- .2	- .2
Jackson	+3.2	- .3	0	- .1	+27.3	+10.4	- .1	- .3	- .1
Knoxville	+ .8	0	- .1	- .1	+ 5.3	+ 2.2	0	- .1	0
Louisville	0	- .5	+ .1	- .2	+ 3.8	- .8	- .2	- .2	- .1
Memphis	+1.5	+ .1	- .9	0	+ 9.4	+ 3.9	+ .1	+ .1	- .3
Mobile	+1.9	- .4	+ .7	- .1	+10.4	+ 6.4	0	+ .1	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	+ .9	+ .1	- .5	0	+ 9.0	+ 2.4	- .2	0	- .1
Houston	+ .6	+ .3	+ .1	0	+11.4	- .1	0	- .1	-2.0
Little Rock	+1.4	+ .6	0	- .2	+ 7.7	+ 3.9	- .2	+ .2	+ .2
New Orleans	+2.1	0	+ .3	0	+ 5.0	+ 7.0	0	- .1	0
Mountain:									
Butte	- .8	- .1	- .8	- .1	+ 9.5	- 3.7	- .2	- .3	0
Denver	-2.5	+ .2	- .3	-1.0	+ 7.9	- 8.4	0	- .2	+ .1
Salt Lake City	- .9	+ .3	- .1	0	+ 5.1	- 4.5	- .1	- .5	0
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	+1.9	- .1	- .2	0	+ 8.1	+ 4.8	- .1	- .9	-1.5
Portland, Ore.	- .6	0	- .5	0	+ 2.4	- 2.5	+ .3	- .2	+ .2
San Francisco	0	- .1	0	0	+ 2.7	- .8	0	- .3	0
Seattle	- .2	+ .1	- .4	0	+ 7.9	- 3.2	+ .2	0	- .2

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity		Aug. 15 1944 Average Prices Cents	Percent Change				
			July 18 1944 to Aug. 15 1944	Aug. 17 1943 to Aug. 15 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Aug. 15 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Aug. 15 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Aug. 15 1944
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.6	-0.3	+ 4.7	+19.0	+56.0	+80.4
Macaroni	lb.	15.8	+ .6	+ 1.3	+12.1	+14.5	+12.9
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.2	+ .9	- .9	- 3.3	- 1.3	- 4.1
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.5	-1.5	- 3.0	- 7.1	- 8.5	- 7.1
Corn meal	lb.	6.3	0	+ 8.6	+26.0	+50.0	+57.5
*Rice	"	12.9	+ .8	+ .8	+ 3.2	+63.3	+72.0
Rollod oats	"	9.9	+1.0	+15.1	+13.8	+39.4	+39.4
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	12.2	+ .8	+16.2	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	0	- 1.1	+ 1.1	+12.8	+12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.6	-1.0	- 2.0	+ 1.1	+10.3	+ 9.1
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	- 2.0	+ 2.1	+10.0	+ 7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	28.1	-1.1	0	+ 4.1	+12.0	<u>2/</u>
Soda crackers	"	19.0	+ .5	+ 3.3	+14.5	+26.7	+28.4
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	41.2	-1.0	- 1.0	- 6.8	+ 6.7	+13.2
Rib roast	"	33.1	- .9	- 1.8	- 4.6	+ 5.1	+14.5
Chuck roast	"	28.7	- .3	- 1.4	- 4.3	+13.9	+27.6
*Stew meat	"	31.0	-1.0	+ .6	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver	"	37.2	- .3	+ 3.0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Hamburger	"	27.7	- .7	- 2.1	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	45.2	+ .2	- .7	-17.7	0	+ 6.4
*Roast, boned and rolled	"	35.0	0	+ 1.2	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:							
Chops	"	37.3	0	- 1.8	-13.5	+28.2	+20.7
Bacon, sliced	"	40.9	- .5	- 3.1	0	+35.9	+34.5
Ham, sliced	"	50.4	-1.0	- 4.2	-15.4	+11.8	+ 8.6
Ham, whole	"	35.3	- .6	- 2.2	- 7.8	+34.7	+28.8
Salt pork	"	22.1	- .5	- 3.9	- 7.1	+32.3	+43.5
*Liver	"	21.9	- .5	- 1.4	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage	"	38.1	+ .3	- .8	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologna, big	"	34.1	0	- .9	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:							
Leg	"	40.0	- .2	0	+ 5.5	+43.9	+44.9
Rib chops	"	45.3	- .2	- 1.5	- 3.8	+29.4	+23.4

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity		Aug. 15 1944 Average Prices Cents	Percent Change				
			July 18 1944 to Aug. 15 1944	Aug. 17 1943 to Aug. 15 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Aug. 15 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Aug. 15 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Aug. 15 1944
MEATS: (Continued)							
Poultry:							
Roasting chickens	2/ lb.	44.6	-1.1	+ 1.8	+12.0	+54.1	+58.4
Fish:							
Fish (fresh, frozen)	2/ lb.	1/	+ .3	- 2.6	+19.2	+70.0	+100.6
Salmon, pink	16 oz. can	23.6	- .4	- .4	+ 8.3	+50.3	+84.4
*Salmon, red	"	40.4	-3.6	- 2.4	- .5	+53.0	+74.9
DAIRY PRODUCTS:							
Butter	lb.	50.0	0	- 1.0	- 1.2	+31.6	+62.9
Cheese	"	36.1	0	- 3.5	+ 5.2	+33.7	+46.2
Milk, fresh (delivered)	qt.	15.6	0	+ .6	+ 4.0	+20.0	+30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery)	"	14.5	0	+ .7	+ 7.4	+21.8	+31.8
Milk, evaporated	14 1/2 oz. can	10.0	0	- 1.0	+12.4	+40.8	+49.3
EGGS:							
Eggs, fresh	2/ doz.	56.5	+7.1	- 4.8	+ 2.7	+63.7	+75.7
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:							
Fresh fruits and vegetables:							
Fresh fruits:							
Apples	lb.	11.0	-19.1	- 2.7	+77.4	+111.5	+150.0
Bananas	"	11.2	0	- 6.7	+ 8.7	+69.7	+83.6
Oranges	doz.	50.9 5/	+ .2	+ 1.2	+30.2	+86.4	+61.6
*Grapefruit	ca.	10.4	+3.0	+ 8.3	+10.6	3/	3/
Fresh vegetables:							
Beans, green	lb.	14.0	+4.5	+ 2.2	+20.7	0	+94.4
Cabbage	"	4.9	+2.1	0	+25.6	+44.1	+25.6
Carrots	bunch	8.7	+1.2	+ 7.4	+26.1	+45.0	+89.1
Lettuce	head	10.8	+5.9	-14.3	-13.6	+28.6	+28.6
Onions	lb.	6.5	-9.7	-17.7	+44.4	+80.6	+80.6
Potatoes	15 lb.	80.1	+ .8	+24.2	+65.8	+174.3	+132.8
Spinach	lb.	11.6	+12.6	-13.4	+ 8.4	+58.9	+48.7
Sweetpotatoes	"	12.3	-8.9	-13.4	+92.2	+146.0	+123.6
*Beets	bunch	7.3	-2.7	-11.0	4/	4/	4/
Canned fruits and vegetables:							
Canned fruits:							
Peaches	# 2 1/2 can	27.7	0	+ 3.4	+15.4	+67.9	+62.0
Pineapple	"	27.3	0	- 2.5	- 3.5	+30.6	+30.0
Grapefruit juice	#2 can	14.3	- .7	0	+15.3	3/	3/

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

5/ Comparable July price, 48.7¢.
Percent change based on published prices.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Percent Change					
	Aug. 15 1944	July 18 1944 to Aug. 15 1944	Aug. 17 1943 to Aug. 15 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Aug. 15 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Aug. 15 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Aug. 15 1944
	Average Prices Cents					
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)						
Canned vegetables:						
Beans, green #2 can	13.2	+ .8	- 9.6	- 3.6	+32.0	+32.0
Corn "	14.5	+ .7	+ 3.6	+ 9.0	+35.5	+39.4
Peas "	13.1	0	-10.3	-10.3	- .8	- 3.7
Tomatoes "	12.0	+ .8	- 4.0	+ 3.4	+42.9	+39.5
*Soup, vegetable 11 oz. can	13.4	0	+ 4.7	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits and vegetables:						
Dried fruits:						
Prunes lb.	17.3	+1.2	+ 3.6	+16.9	+80.2	+96.6
Dried vegetables:						
Navy beans lb.	10.8	+ .9	+ 4.9	+18.7	+66.2	+86.2
*Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle oz.	3.6	-2.7	- 2.7	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:						
Coffee lb.	30.1	+ .3	+ .3	+ 4.9	+45.4	+35.0
Tea $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	23.9	0	+ 4.4	+ 6.7	+35.8	+39.0
*Cocoa $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	10.3	+1.0	+15.7	+ 1.0	+13.2	+19.8
FATS AND OILS:						
Lard lb.	13.6	0	- 1.6	+ 7.5	+100.0	+87.9
Shortening other than lard:						
In cartons lb.	20.2	0	+ 1.5	+ 3.6	+78.8	+72.6
In other containers "	24.8	+ .4	- .4	+ 1.6	+35.5	+22.8
Salad dressing pt.	25.6	0	+ 2.0	+ 1.6	+27.4	<u>2/</u>
Oleomargarine lb.	24.0	- .8	0	+ 7.1	+53.8	+45.5
Peanut butter "	28.4	0	-14.7	+ 2.2	+58.7	+58.7
*Oil, cooking or salad pt.	30.6	0	+ .3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:						
Sugar lb.	6.7	-1.5	- 1.5	- 2.9	+31.4	+28.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.8	0	+ .6	+ 4.6	+16.2	+15.3
*Molasses 18 oz.	15.8	0	+ .6	+ 6.0	+17.9	+16.2
*Apple butter 16 oz.	13.3	+ .8	- .7	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and city	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Aug.15	July18	Aug.17	Sept.15	Jan.14	July18	Aug.17	Sept.15	Jan.14
	1944	1944	1943	1942	1941	1944	1943	1942	1941
	2/					to Aug.15 1944	to Aug.15 1944	to Aug.15 1944	to Aug.15 1944
United States	137.7	137.4	137.2	126.6	97.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 8.8	+40.8
New England:									
Boston	132.2	131.9	131.1	124.4	95.2	+ .2	+ .8	+ 6.3	+38.9
Bridgeport	135.1	135.5	135.2	127.1	96.5	- .3	- .1	+ 6.3	+40.0
Fall River	132.3	132.9	134.0	125.7	97.5	- .5	- 1.3	+ 5.3	+35.7
Manchester	135.0	135.3	133.7	126.8	96.6	- .2	+ 1.0	+ 6.5	+39.8
New Haven	136.0	135.3	136.7	126.2	95.7	+ .5	+ .5	+ 7.8	+42.1
Portland, Maine	136.5	135.1	133.6	125.8	95.3	+ 1.0	+ 2.2	+ 8.5	+43.2
Providence	136.8	135.5	135.0	126.3	96.3	+ 1.0	+ 1.3	+ 8.3	+42.1
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	134.0	135.0	137.9	127.6	100.2	- .7	- 2.8	+ 5.0	+33.7
Newark	138.4	139.2	139.0	128.0	98.8	- .6	- .4	+ 8.1	+40.1
New York	138.9	138.1	137.2	125.2	99.5	+ .6	+ 1.2	+10.9	+39.6
Philadelphia	136.1	134.8	135.3	123.9	95.0	+ 1.0	+ .6	+ 9.8	+43.3
Pittsburgh	138.7	136.7	137.8	125.9	98.0	+ 1.5	+ .7	+10.2	+41.5
Rochester	133.0	133.8	133.1	125.2	99.9	- .6	- .1	+ 6.2	+33.1
Scranton	138.8	138.6	137.5	125.6	97.5	+ .1	+ .9	+10.5	+42.4
East North Central:									
Chicago	137.1	138.6	136.4	124.9	98.2	- 1.1	+ .5	+ 9.8	+39.6
Cincinnati	136.8	139.2	137.6	126.9	96.5	- 1.7	- .6	+ 7.8	+41.8
Cleveland	144.3	144.6	145.2	127.3	99.2	- .2	- .6	+13.4	+45.5
Columbus, Ohio	130.2	129.2	131.6	119.6	93.4	+ .8	- 1.1	+ 8.9	+39.4
Detroit	134.4	136.5	134.8	124.7	97.0	- 1.5	- .3	+ 7.8	+38.6
Indianapolis	134.4	134.6	135.1	127.1	98.2	- .1	- .5	+ 5.7	+36.9
Milwaukee	136.4	137.4	134.4	121.0	95.9	- .7	+ 1.5	+12.7	+42.2
Peoria	141.1	140.4	141.2	130.7	99.0	+ .5	- .1	+ 8.0	+42.5
Springfield, Ill.	142.5	144.2	142.1	130.2	96.2	- 1.2	+ .3	+ 9.4	+48.1
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids 4/	139.1	140.5	138.0	121.2	95.9	- 1.0	+ .8	+14.8	+45.0
Kansas City	131.2	132.5	131.7	120.7	92.4	- 1.0	- .4	+ 8.7	+42.0
Minneapolis	130.5	131.3	130.4	123.3	99.0	- .6	+ .1	+ 5.8	+31.8
Omaha	129.7	130.4	130.8	123.2	97.9	- .5	- .8	+ 5.3	+32.5
St. Louis	140.1	141.9	140.2	126.7	99.2	- 1.3	- .1	+10.6	+41.2
St. Paul	128.5	129.6	128.9	120.8	98.6	- .8	- .3	+ 6.4	+30.3
Wichita 4/	147.8	148.4	146.2	132.0	97.2	- .4	+ 1.1	+12.0	+52.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and city	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100					Percent Change			
	Aug.15	July18	Aug.17	Sept.15	Jan.14	July18	Aug.17	Sept.15	Jan.14
	1944 <u>2/</u>	1944	1943	1942	1941	1944 to Aug.15 1944	1943 to Aug.15 1944	1942 to Aug.15 1944	1941 to Aug.15 1944
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	139.2	138.1	139.2	125.9	94.3	+ 0.8	0.0	+10.6	+47.6
Baltimore	143.5	143.1	145.2	131.2	97.9	+ .3	- 1.2	+ 9.4	+46.6
Charleston, S.C.	135.4	133.0	136.5	126.6	95.9	+ 1.8	- .8	+ 7.0	+41.2
Jacksonville	148.9	144.8	150.9	134.2	98.8	+ 2.8	- 1.3	+11.0	+50.7
Norfolk <u>3/</u>	144.8	143.2	151.1	131.9	95.8	+ 1.1	- 4.2	+ 9.8	+51.1
Richmond	136.5	134.4	137.0	126.2	93.7	+ 1.6	- .4	+ 8.2	+45.7
Savannah	154.7	152.9	152.4	133.3	100.5	+ 1.2	+ 1.5	+16.1	+53.9
Washington, D.C.	136.7	134.9	138.5	128.1	97.7	+ 1.3	- 1.3	+ 6.7	+39.9
Winston-Salem <u>4/</u>	138.8	136.0	138.3	119.8	93.7	+ 2.1	+ .4	+15.9	+48.1
East South Central:									
Birmingham	145.4	141.4	141.3	125.3	96.0	+ 2.8	+ 2.9	+16.0	+51.5
Jackson <u>4/</u>	142.9	138.5	151.5	141.0	105.3	+ 3.2	- 5.7	+ 1.3	+35.7
Knoxville <u>4/</u>	158.6	157.3	156.2	134.2	97.1	+ .8	+ 1.5	+18.2	+63.3
Louisville	133.4	133.4	134.7	124.2	95.5	0	- 1.0	+ 7.4	+39.7
Memphis	148.3	146.1	148.0	129.7	94.2	+ 1.5	+ .2	+14.3	+57.4
Mobile	147.1	144.4	149.7	133.9	97.9	+ 1.9	- 1.7	+ 9.9	+50.3
West South Central:									
Dallas	133.5	132.3	135.4	123.7	92.6	+ .9	- 1.4	+ 7.9	+44.2
Houston	137.8	137.0	136.2	130.8	102.6	+ .6	+ 1.2	+ 5.4	+34.3
Little Rock	137.7	135.8	137.6	129.2	95.6	+ 1.4	+ .1	+ 6.6	+44.0
New Orleans	152.7	149.6	153.3	135.9	101.9	+ 2.1	- .4	+12.4	+49.9
Mountain:									
Butte	133.7	134.8	137.2	124.6	98.7	- .8	- 2.6	+ 7.3	+35.5
Denver	137.1	140.6	134.5	126.8	94.8	- 2.5	+ 1.9	+ 8.1	+44.6
Salt Lake City	139.9	141.1	139.5	130.1	97.5	- .9	+ .3	+ 7.5	+43.5
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	141.1	138.5	141.1	137.9	101.8	+ 1.9	0	+ 2.3	+38.6
Portland, Oreg.	145.3	146.2	144.7	141.2	101.7	- .6	+ .4	+ 2.9	+42.9
San Francisco	142.4	142.4	137.3	133.5	99.6	0	+ 3.7	+ 6.7	+43.0
Seattle	141.6	141.9	139.8	137.3	101.0	- .2	+ 1.3	+ 3.1	+40.2

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

4/ June 1940 equals 100.

538

Un 375c

For immediate release
Nov 1 1944

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C. NOV 20 1944

COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD - SEPTEMBER 1944

The BLS index indicates average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. The items covered represented 70 percent of the expenditures of families who had incomes ranging from \$1250 to \$2000 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods and forced changes in housing and eating away from home.

It does not measure changes in total "living costs"--that is, in the total amount families spend for living. Income taxes and bond subscriptions are not included.

Retail prices of living essentials increased 0.1 percent on the average between mid-August and mid-September, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins announced today. "Higher prices for autumn clothing and for house-furnishings more than offset lower average costs of food," she said.

"The Bureau of Labor Statistics index of the cost of living for September 1944 is 126.5 percent of the 1935-39 average.

"Currently, prices of living essentials at retail are 2.1 percent higher than a year ago. Almost all of this rise has been in clothing, house-furnishings, and the cost of services. Food costs slightly less than in September 1943. Rents in large cities are up 0.2 percent over the year.

"Food prices in the large cities declined contraseasonally by 0.5 percent between August 15 and September 15, and were on the average 0.3 percent lower than the level a year ago. Large supplies of new crops of apples, onions, and both white and sweet potatoes, and seasonally lower OPA price ceilings for some of these fruits and vegetables were chiefly responsible for the price decline over the month. Retail prices for all of these crops except white potatoes are lower than they were last September. There was a further seasonal rise of about 3 cents per dozen in the price of eggs in September, and some increase in prices of fish.

"Clothing prices continued to advance, and reports were again widespread of scarcity of children's clothing, underwear, housedresses, work clothing, and other cotton articles. During the month, there was an increase

of 1.4 percent in clothing prices, which now average 6.7 percent higher than in September a year ago. Most of the increase is due to the disappearance of low price line merchandise. In September, price increases were most marked for winter clothing, particularly men's, women's, and girls' all wool winter coats; men's jackets, sweaters, and hats; and women's woolen dresses. Prices of women's cotton housedresses again advanced in more than half of the large cities surveyed by the BLS, as lower priced merchandise was increasingly scarce.

"Prices of housefurnishings again increased, with prices for living room furniture of steel spring construction higher than early in 1943, when it was last available in retail stores. Scarcity of lower priced furniture continued to be a factor in the price advance. Cotton sheets and towels continued scarce, while all-wool blankets were available in practically all stores.

"There were scattered increases in costs of laundry and domestic services, medical care, and beauty shop services. The group of miscellaneous goods and services now costs 4.6 percent more than a year ago.

"Prices of fuel, electricity and ice were unchanged during the month, and are now 2.0 percent higher than in September 1943, principally due to higher prices for coal.

"There was little change in rents in large cities from June to September. The housing shortage is still acute, especially in war centers, with continued reports of forced sales to tenants."

NOTE: Effective in September 1944, rents will no longer be collected each quarter in all of the 34 cities regularly surveyed by the Bureau, because of the recent general stability of rents in large cities. In computing the rent index for the large cities combined for each quarter hereafter, it will be assumed that no change has occurred in rents in cities not currently surveyed.

Cities in which rents were not collected in September will be surveyed in December. At that time, rentals for these cities for the September quarter will also be obtained and published. The rent index for large cities combined for the September quarter is subject to revision when rent data for the cities not surveyed in September are obtained in the December quarter.

Table 1.

Report for September 15, 1944

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COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*
 (Some indexes for July and August 1944 are revised)

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: September 15	123.9	137.4	132.5	108.0	107.6	126.3	117.0
1944: July 15	126.1	137.4	138.3 <u>1/</u>	108.2 <u>2/</u>	109.7 <u>1/</u>	138.7 <u>1/</u>	122.0 <u>1/</u>
August 15	126.4 <u>1/</u>	137.7 <u>1/</u>	139.4 <u>1/</u>	108.2 <u>2/</u>	109.8	139.3 <u>1/</u>	122.3 <u>1/</u>
September 15	126.5	137.0	141.4	108.2 <u>2/</u>	109.8	140.7	122.4

Table 1a.

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent <u>2/</u>	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
August 15, 1944 to September 15, 1944	+0.1	-0.5	+1.4	0	0	+1.0	+0.1
Sept. 15, 1943 to September 15, 1944	+2.1	-0.3	+6.7	+0.2	+2.0	+11.4	+4.6
Sept. 15, 1942 to September 15, 1944	+7.4	+8.2	+12.4	+0.2	+3.4	+13.8	+9.9
May 15, 1942 to September 15, 1944	+9.1	+12.7	+12.0	-1.5	+4.7	+15.1	+10.4
Jan. 15, 1941 to September 15, 1944	+25.5	+40.1	+40.4	+3.0	+8.9	+40.6	+20.1
August 15, 1939 to September 15, 1944	+28.3	+46.5	+41.0	+3.7	+12.6	+39.9	+21.9

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities combined.

1/ Revised.

2/ Based on rents in 20 large cities in September 1944 and assuming no change in rents in cities not surveyed in September. See note at end of text.

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change Between Aug. 15, 1944 and Sept. 15, 1944 by Groups*

(Some indexes for August revised)

Area and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+0.1	-0.5 <u>1/</u>	+1.4	0 <u>2/</u>	0	+1.0	+0.1
New England:							
Boston	+0.4	+0.5	+1.2	<u>3/</u>	0	+0.2	0
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	+0.6	+0.6	+2.0	<u>3/</u>	0	+0.2	+0.4
New York	-0.1	-1.2	+2.1	+0.1	0	+4.2	+0.2
Philadelphia	+0.1	-0.9	+2.7	+0.1	+0.1	+0.3	+0.1
Pittsburgh	0	-0.5	+1.3	<u>3/</u>	0	+1.1	-0.1
East North Central:							
Chicago	+0.3	+0.1	+1.9	<u>3/</u>	+0.1	+0.6	0
Cincinnati	-0.2	-0.7	+1.4	<u>3/</u>	0	+0.1	+0.1
Cleveland	-0.2	-1.0	+1.3	+0.1	0	+0.1	+0.2
Detroit	+0.1	-0.3	+0.7	+0.1	0	+0.7	+0.3
West North Central:							
Kansas City	+0.3	-0.2	+2.8	<u>3/</u>	0	+0.1	0
Minneapolis	-0.1	-0.6	+0.4	+0.1	0	+1.3	+0.3
St. Louis	0	-0.2	+0.9	+0.1	0	+0.1	0
South Atlantic:							
Baltimore	-0.7	-2.0	+0.4	0	+0.1	+0.3	+0.1
Savannah	-0.4	-1.2	+0.6	<u>3/</u>	0	+1.0	+0.2
Washington, D. C.	-0.2	-1.1	+1.1	<u>3/</u>	0	+2.3	0
East South Central:							
Birmingham	-1.3	-3.5	+0.2	0	0	+1.9	0
West South Central:							
Houston	+0.1	-0.2	+0.7	+0.4	0	+0.2	0
Mountain:							
Denver	0	-0.5	+1.5	<u>3/</u>	0	+0.6	0
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	+0.3	+0.2	+1.1	<u>3/</u>	0	+2.7	0
San Francisco	+0.4	+0.6	+0.7	0	0	+0.4	0
Seattle	+0.2	+0.1	+1.4	-0.4	0	+1.2	0

* Percent changes based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the 15th of the month.

2/ Based on rents in 20 large cities in September 1944 and assuming no change in rents in cities not surveyed in September. See note at end of text.

3/ Data not available. See note at end of text.

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since Aug. 15, 1939, Jan. 1, 1941 and other specified Dates*

Area and City	Sept. 15, 1943 to Sept. 15, 1944	Aug. 15, 1939 to Sept. 15, 1944	Jan. 1, 1941 to Sept. 15, 1944	May 15, 1942 to Sept. 15, 1944	Sept. 15, 1942 to Sept. 15, 1944
Average: Large Cities	+2.1	+28.3	+25.5	+9.1	+7.4
New England:					
Boston	+2.4	+27.0	+24.4	+8.7	+6.1
Manchester	+2.8	+31.9	+28.7	+9.0	+7.3
Portland, Maine	+2.3	+28.9	+27.1	+8.1	+6.1
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+1.3	+29.0	+24.7	+5.5	+5.5
New York	+2.5	+28.4	+25.8	+12.2	+9.3
Philadelphia	+2.4	+28.4	+26.6	+9.5	+7.4
Pittsburgh	+2.8	+30.0	+26.4	+10.4	+8.9
Scranton	+3.1	+30.2	+26.0	+10.1	+8.5
East North Central:					
Chicago	+1.9	+27.8	+24.6	+8.2	+7.5
Cincinnati	+2.1	+29.8	+26.8	+9.0	+7.0
Cleveland	+1.6	+30.4	+27.8	+9.8	+9.0
Detroit	+2.4	+29.3	+26.1	+7.2	+7.6
Indianapolis	+2.3	+30.2	+25.1	+7.3	+7.1
Milwaukee	+2.4	+28.1	+25.3	+8.6	+7.8
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+2.5	+26.1	+26.3	+8.9	+8.4
Minneapolis	+1.3	+23.0	+20.4	+5.8	+5.0
St. Louis	+2.1	+27.6	+24.0	+8.3	+7.4
South Atlantic:					
Atlanta	+2.0	+29.7	+27.4	+10.8	+8.4
Baltimore	+1.3	+29.4	+26.8	+8.0	+6.6
Jacksonville	+1.7	+36.1	+31.6	+12.5	+10.4
Norfolk	-0.4	+33.5	+29.8	+9.1	+7.0
Richmond	+1.1	+25.8	+23.8	+7.4	+5.2
Savannah	+2.0	+36.1	+33.2	+11.7	+10.6
Washington, D.C.	+1.1	+26.6	+24.9	+8.8	+6.6
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+1.9	+32.0	+28.0	+9.5	+9.4
Memphis	+1.4	+33.1	+30.5	+11.3	+9.1
Mobile	+1.8	+31.2	+28.9	+9.0	+7.0
West South Central:					
Houston	+1.2	+23.9	+22.4	+7.4	+5.8
New Orleans	+1.3	+32.4	+29.8	+11.7	+8.6
Mountain:					
Denver	+2.7	+26.7	+24.9	+8.0	+6.6
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+2.1	+27.4	+24.9	+8.4	+5.2
Portland, Oreg.	+2.2	+31.7	+29.2	+8.3	+5.5
San Francisco	+3.4	+30.8	+27.6	+10.5	+7.4
Seattle	+1.6	+29.5	+27.2	+7.2	+5.9

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change Between June 15, 1944 and Sept. 15, 1944 by Groups*

Area and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+0.9	+1.0 <u>1/</u>	+2.5	+0.1 <u>2/</u>	+0.2	+1.7	+0.6
New England:							
Boston	+1.2	+1.9	+2.4	<u>3/</u>	0	+1.1	+0.4
Manchester	+1.7	+2.5	+1.5	+0.1	+1.4	+6.3	+0.7
Portland, Maine	+0.9	+1.9	+1.7	+0.1	-0.2	-2.4	0
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	+0.6	+0.1	+2.9	<u>3/</u>	0	+0.4	+0.9
New York	+1.0	+0.4	+3.5	+0.1	+0.2	+5.2	+1.4
Philadelphia	+0.6	+0.3	+3.4	+0.1	+0.1	+1.0	+0.1
Pittsburgh	+1.1	+1.6	+3.0	<u>3/</u>	-0.4	+2.1	-0.1
Scranton	+1.5	+1.6	+4.7	<u>3/</u>	0	+2.7	+0.2
East North Central:							
Chicago	+1.0	+1.4	+2.8	<u>3/</u>	+0.1	+0.8	+0.4
Cincinnati	-0.2	-1.9	+2.8	<u>3/</u>	+0.1	+1.2	+0.7
Cleveland	+1.2	+1.1	+2.2	+0.1	+0.3	+0.9	+1.7
Detroit	+0.6	+0.8	+2.2	+0.1	-0.1	+1.1	+0.2
Indianapolis	+1.1	+1.3	+1.7	+0.1	+0.1	+1.2	+1.4
Milwaukee	+0.4	0	+2.4	0	+0.3	-0.1	+0.4
West North Central:							
Kansas City	+0.6	+0.3	+3.8	<u>3/</u>	0	+0.7	0
Minneapolis	+0.3	+0.5	+0.6	+0.1	-1.7	+1.3	+0.7
St. Louis	+0.7	+0.8	+1.5	+0.1	0	+0.2	+1.0
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta	+1.2	+1.9	+2.3	0	+0.1	+1.0	+0.5
Baltimore	+0.2	-0.4	+1.6	0	+0.1	+1.4	+0.2
Jacksonville	+1.8	+3.6	+2.0	<u>3/</u>	0	+0.7	+0.2
Norfolk	+0.2	-0.6	+0.9	+0.3	+1.4	+1.6	+0.6
Richmond	+0.6	+0.1	+1.6	0	+1.1	+4.5	+0.2
Savannah	+1.0	+1.7	+1.3	<u>3/</u>	+0.2	+1.4	+0.7
Washington, D. C.	+0.3	-0.1	+1.6	<u>3/</u>	+0.1	+2.3	+0.2
East South Central:							
Birmingham	+0.4	+0.4	+1.1	0	-1.5	+3.0	+0.2
Memphis	+0.8	+1.2	+0.6	+0.1	+0.2	+0.3	+1.1
Mobile	+1.7	+3.2	+2.4	+0.2	-1.4	+1.5	+0.1
West South Central:							
Houston	+1.0	+1.9	+1.2	+0.3	0	+0.8	+0.1
New Orleans	+2.1	+4.2	+0.6	<u>3/</u>	0	0	+0.3
Mountain:							
Denver	+0.2	-0.8	+2.7	<u>3/</u>	0	+1.5	+0.4
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	+0.9	+1.6	+1.7	<u>3/</u>	0	+3.2	+0.2
Portland, Oreg.	+1.9	+0.3	+0.8	<u>3/</u>	+26.6	+0.3	+1.3
San Francisco	+0.5	+0.6	+1.7	0	0	+0.9	+0.5
Seattle	+0.9	+0.9	+2.8	-0.2	+1.4	+1.4	+0.2

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the 15th of the month.

2/ Based on rents in 20 large cities in September 1944 and assuming no change in rents in cities not surveyed in September. See note at end of text.

3/ Data not available. See note at end of text.

Table 5.

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Report for September 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*

(Some indexes for July and August revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities							
July 15	126.1	137.4 1/	138.3	108.2 2/	109.7	138.7	122.0
August 15	126.4	137.7 1/	139.4	108.2 2/	109.8	139.3	122.3
September 15	126.5	137.0 1/	141.4	108.2 2/	109.8	140.7	122.4
New England:							
Boston:							
July 15	122.4	131.9	136.1	3/	120.0	133.0	116.4
August 15	122.8	132.2	137.5	3/	120.0	134.0	116.9
September 15	123.3	132.9	139.2	3/	120.0	134.3	116.9
Manchester:							
July 15	3/	135.3	3/	3/	125.6	3/	3/
August 15	3/	135.0	3/	3/	127.4	3/	3/
September 15	129.0	134.2	143.8	108.0	127.4	145.2	121.4
Portland, Maine:							
July 15	3/	135.1	3/	3/	119.2	3/	3/
August 15	3/	136.5	3/	3/	119.1	3/	3/
September 15	125.2	133.6	141.2	106.7	119.0	135.6	120.8
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo:							
July 15	126.6	135.0	136.0	5/	106.9	141.8	125.4
August 15	126.3	134.0	136.7	3/	106.9	141.9	125.7
September 15	127.1	134.8	139.4	3/	106.9	142.2	126.2
New York:							
July 15	126.5	138.1	142.8	103.4	113.7	127.9	124.3
August 15	127.2	138.9	144.3	103.4	113.8	128.5	125.3
September 15	127.1	137.3	147.4	103.5	113.8	133.9	125.6
Philadelphia:							
July 15	124.9	134.8	138.9	106.7	109.0	138.1	119.6
August 15	125.5	136.1	139.5	106.7	109.0	138.7	119.7
September 15	125.6	134.9	143.2	106.8	109.1	139.1	119.8
Pittsburgh:							
July 15	126.9	136.7	155.2	3/	112.4	134.3	119.0
August 15	127.9	138.7	157.4	3/	112.0	135.0	119.0
September 15	127.9	138.0	159.4	3/	112.0	136.5	118.9
Scranton:							
July 15	3/	138.6	3/	3/	111.0	3/	3/
August 15	3/	138.8	3/	3/	111.0	3/	3/
September 15	125.0	138.1	144.8	3/	111.0	142.9	114.9
East North Central:							
Chicago:							
July 15	126.2	138.6	132.3	3/	105.1	138.8	119.8
August 15	125.7	137.1	133.2	3/	105.1	139.0	119.8
September 15	126.1	137.3	135.7	3/	105.2	139.8	119.8
Cincinnati:							
July 15	127.1	139.2	137.6	3/	106.0	143.4	122.7
August 15	126.5	136.8	138.8	3/	106.1	144.6	123.3
September 15	126.3	135.8	140.8	3/	106.1	144.7	123.4

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*
 (Some indexes for July and August Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Cleveland:							
July 15	130.5	144.6	139.7	115.7	115.0	139.0	121.1
August 15	130.6	144.3	140.6	115.7	115.3	139.5	121.6
September 15	130.4	142.8	142.4	115.8	115.3	139.7	121.9
Detroit:							
July 15	127.9	136.5	136.5	114.7	112.3	141.5	128.0
August 15	127.3	134.4	138.2	114.7	112.3	141.6	128.0
September 15	127.4	134.0	139.1	114.8	112.3	142.6	128.4
Indianapolis:							
July 15	3/	134.6	3/	3/	112.2	3/	3/
August 15	3/	134.4	3/	3/	112.2	3/	3/
September 15	127.6	134.3	136.4	115.7	112.2	150.0	124.0
Milwaukee:							
July 15	3/	137.4	3/	3/	109.7	3/	3/
August 15	3/	136.4	3/	3/	109.7	3/	3/
September 15	124.3	135.5	133.4	108.3	109.9	142.6	118.4
West North Central:							
Kansas City:							
July 15	124.2	132.5	134.7	3/	110.2	127.3	124.9
August 15	123.9	131.2	136.1	3/	110.2	127.7	125.0
September 15	124.3	130.9	139.9	3/	110.2	127.8	125.0
Minneapolis:							
July 15	123.0	131.3	135.7	110.3	104.9	132.5	121.3
August 15	122.7	130.5	135.9	110.3	103.1	132.5	121.6
September 15	122.6	129.7	136.5	110.4	103.1	134.2	122.0
St. Louis:							
July 15	125.7	141.9	137.7	106.0	107.2	125.9	118.3
August 15	125.2	140.1	138.4	106.0	107.2	125.9	118.4
September 15	125.2	139.8	139.7	106.1	107.2	126.0	118.4
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta:							
July 15	3/	138.1	3/	3/	114.5	3/	3/
August 15	3/	139.2	3/	3/	114.5	3/	3/
September 15	127.1	137.8	137.2	106.7	114.6	132.6	126.5
Baltimore:							
July 15	128.3	143.1	144.0	106.4	108.9	145.7	120.7
August 15	128.6	143.5	145.3	106.4	108.9	146.3	120.7
September 15	127.7	140.7	145.9	106.4	109.0	146.7	120.8
Jacksonville:							
July 15	3/	144.8	3/	3/	114.2	3/	3/
August 15	3/	148.9	3/	3/	114.2	3/	3/
September 15	134.1	148.1	139.8	3/	114.2	150.1	131.7
Norfolk:							
July 15	3/	143.2	3/	3/	117.8	3/	3/
August 15	3/	144.8	3/	3/	119.5	3/	3/
September 15	130.6	141.1	140.7	108.9	119.5	143.0	129.2

Table 5 (Continued)

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Report for September 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*
 (Some Indexes for July and August Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Richmond:							
July 15	3/	134.4	3/	3/	107.4	3/	3/
August 15	3/	136.5	3/	3/	108.6	3/	3/
September 15	123.3	134.1	141.8	103.9	108.6	140.8	116.2
Savannah:							
July 15	134.8	152.9	139.8	3/	111.8	138.1	129.1
August 15	135.6	154.7	140.7	3/	112.0	138.4	129.1
September 15	135.1	152.8	141.6	3/	112.0	139.8	129.4
Washington, D. C.:							
July 15	124.3	134.9	146.9	3/	108.8	134.6	125.7
August 15	125.0	136.7	147.3	3/	108.9	134.6	126.0
September 15	124.8	135.2	148.9	3/	108.9	137.7	126.0
East South Central:							
Birmingham:							
July 15	130.1	141.4	136.5	122.5	104.0	134.9	124.4
August 15	131.7	146.4	139.6	122.5	104.2	136.3	124.4
September 15	130.0	140.3	139.9	122.5	104.2	138.9	124.4
Memphis:							
July 15	3/	146.1	3/	3/	105.2	3/	3/
August 15	3/	148.3	3/	3/	105.2	3/	3/
September 15	130.2	146.5	146.0	116.1	105.4	138.5	119.3
Mobile:							
July 15	3/	144.4	3/	3/	104.5	3/	3/
August 15	3/	147.1	3/	3/	104.5	3/	3/
September 15	129.4	146.6	136.8	114.7	102.9	144.9	119.5
West South Central:							
Houston:							
July 15	124.3	137.0	135.7	109.3	91.1	127.8	122.8
August 15	124.7	137.8	136.3	109.2	91.1	127.8	122.9
September 15	124.8	137.5	137.3	109.6	91.1	128.1	122.9
New Orleans:							
July 15	3/	149.6	3/	3/	104.4	3/	3/
August 15	3/	152.7	3/	3/	104.4	3/	3/
September 15	132.0	153.1	138.1	3/	104.4	129.3	118.2
Mountain:							
Denver:							
July 15	126.0	140.6	130.1	3/	104.1	143.4	120.6
August 15	124.9	137.1	131.1	3/	104.1	144.4	120.6
September 15	124.9	136.4	133.1	3/	104.1	145.3	120.6
Pacific:							
Los Angeles:							
July 15	126.6	138.5	137.5	3/	92.5	132.6	125.2
August 15	127.6	141.1	138.1	3/	92.5	132.9	125.2
September 15	128.0	141.4	139.6	3/	92.5	136.5	125.2

Table 5 (Continued)

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Report for September 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*

(Some Indexes for July and August Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Portland, Oregon:							
July 15	3/	146.2	3/	3/	116.6	3/	3/
August 15	3/	145.3	3/	3/	116.6	3/	3/
September 15	131.8	144.8	141.3	3/	116.6	137.3	126.0
San Francisco:							
July 15	129.3	142.4	137.0	106.3	92.6	137.6	129.8
August 15	129.4	142.4	137.8	106.3	92.6	138.1	129.8
September 15	129.9	143.3	138.8	106.3	92.6	138.7	129.8
Seattle:							
July 15	129.5	141.9	138.4	111.6	102.4	129.2	130.6
August 15	129.7	141.6	139.7	111.7	103.5	129.4	130.6
September 15	129.9	141.7	141.6	111.3	103.5	131.0	130.6

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on the Tuesday nearest the 15th of the month.

2/ Based on rents in 20 large cities in September 1944 and assuming no change in rents in cities not surveyed in September. See note at end of text.

3/ Data not available.

Table 6. Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined 1/
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity Group	1944		1943	1942	1941	1939
	2/Sept. 12	Aug. 15	Sept. 14	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All foods	137.0	137.7	137.4	126.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	108.7	108.5	108.2	105.4	94.9	93.4
Meats	129.0	129.0	129.9	130.6	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	118.3	118.6	118.9	126.0	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.2	112.0	114.0	124.0	86.1	88.0
Lamb	134.6	134.7	134.9	133.7	98.7	98.8
Chickens	149.3	149.8	147.5	133.7	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	200.4	198.0	208.5	168.2	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	133.6	133.6	133.5	127.7	105.1	93.1
Eggs	168.0	159.4	177.5	155.2	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	169.9	175.73/	167.0	129.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	179.4	186.73/	175.8	130.3	93.4	92.8
Canned	129.4	129.3	130.0	123.8	91.4	91.6
Dried	165.2	165.0	159.6	143.4	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.3	124.3	125.2	123.8	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	123.0	122.7	126.5	120.7	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	126.3	126.5	126.8	127.0	95.3	95.6

1/ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

Table 6-A - Percent Change

Commodity Group	Aug. 15	Sept. 14	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1944	1943	1942	1941	1939
	to	to	to	to	to
	Sept. 12	Sept. 12	Sept. 12	Sept. 12	Sept. 12
	1944	1944	1944	1944	1944
All foods	- 0.5	- 0.3	+ 8.2	+40.1	+46.5
Cereals and bakery products	+ .2	+ .5	+ 3.1	+14.5	+16.4
Meats	0	- .7	- 1.2	+27.6	+34.8
Beef and veal	- .3	- .5	- 6.1	+ 8.1	+18.8
Pork	+ .2	- 1.6	- 9.5	+30.3	+27.5
Lamb	- .1	- .2	+ .7	+36.4	+36.2
Chickens	- .3	+ 1.2	+11.7	+53.6	+57.8
Fish, fresh and canned	+ 1.2	- 3.9	+19.1	+68.8	+101.2
Dairy products	0	+ .1	+ 4.6	+27.1	+43.5
Eggs	+ 5.4	- 5.4	+ 8.2	+72.5	+85.2
Fruits and vegetables	- 3.3	+ 1.7	+31.0	+82.1	+83.9
Fresh	- 3.9	+ 2.0	+37.7	+92.1	+93.3
Canned	+ .1	- .5	+ 4.5	+41.6	+41.3
Dried	+ .1	+ 3.5	+15.2	+65.9	+82.9
Beverages	0	- .7	+ .4	+36.7	+31.0
Fats and oils	+ .2	- 2.8	+ 1.9	+53.2	+45.6
Sugar and sweets	- .2	- .4	- .6	+32.5	+32.1

Table 7 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

Region and City	Percent Change - Aug. 15, 1944 to Sept. 12, 1944								
	All foods	Cereals and bakery	Meats	Dairy products	Eggs	Fruits and veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and oils	Sugar and sweets
United States	-0.5	+0.2	0.0	0.0	+5.4	-3.3	0.0	+0.2	-0.2
New England:									
Boston	+ .5	+ .5	- .4	- .1	+3.1	+1.6	0	- .3	- .5
Bridgeport	0	0	- .2	0	+3.9	-1.3	0	- .6	+ .5
Fall River	+ .1	+ .1	- .2	+ .1	+5.7	-1.5	+ .1	+ .1	- .9
Manchester	- .6	0	+ .2	+ .1	+6.2	-5.2	0	0	- .8
New Haven	+ .2	0	0	- .1	+3.2	+ .2	- .5	- .2	+ .7
Portland, Maine	-2.1	+ .1	- .4	+ .2	+4.2	-10.9	0	0	0
Providence	- .7	- .1	- .1	+ .2	+5.2	-4.2	- .1	- .2	- .6
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	+ .6	- .3	+ .4	- .1	+3.9	+1.5	- .1	0	0
Newark	+ .1	- .1	-1.0	- .2	+4.9	+ .2	- .2	+ .6	- .1
New York	-1.2	0	+ .5	0	+5.6	-6.4	0	- .2	- .2
Philadelphia	- .9	+ .8	- .3	+ .3	+6.9	-5.8	0	+ .3	- .2
Pittsburgh	- .5	- .3	- .4	- .2	+7.9	-3.2	- .2	+ .5	- .1
Rochester	+ .6	- .1	+ .4	- .1	+3.8	+1.4	+ .1	- .1	+ .2
Scranton	- .5	+ .1	- .3	- .4	+6.3	-3.1	+ .4	0	0
East North Central:									
Chicago	+ .1	0	+ .4	0	+5.4	- .9	+ .1	+ .4	- .1
Cincinnati	- .7	0	-1.0	0	+6.7	-3.0	0	+1.7	-1.6
Cleveland	-1.0	- .1	- .3	- .4	+6.7	-4.5	0	+ .6	- .1
Columbus, Ohio	- .6	0	0	0	+3.9	-5.2	0	+1.5	- .2
Detroit	- .3	+ .3	0	- .1	+5.8	-2.8	+ .1	+ .2	0
Indianapolis	- .1	- .2	-1.0	0	+3.1	- .1	+ .1	+ .1	- .2
Milwaukee	- .7	- .3	- .2	0	+6.3	-3.7	+ .1	0	0
Peoria	- .4	0	- .7	0	+3.6	-1.1	- .1	- .5	- .3
Springfield, Ill.	0	+ .4	- .5	- .1	+8.1	- .7	- .3	- .1	+ .2
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	- .1	0	- .1	- .1	+1.7	- .7	+ .1	+ .4	- .2
Kansas City	- .2	+ .1	+ .4	- .1	+5.5	-3.2	0	- .1	- .1
Minneapolis	- .6	+ .2	+ .2	0	+ .6	-3.3	0	- .1	0
Omaha	+ .2	0	0	- .1	+1.4	- .1	0	+ .1	0
St. Louis	- .2	+ .1	- .1	+ .1	+8.7	-2.5	- .2	+1.2	-1.2
St. Paul	- .5	+ .1	- .1	- .1	+ .8	-2.6	+ .5	0	0
Wichita	- .5	+ .2	- .1	0	+6.8	-4.2	+1.1	0	- .8

Table 7 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities. (Cont'd)
by Groups of Foods

Region and City	Percent Change - Aug. 15, 1944 to Sept. 12, 1944								
	All foods	Cereals and bakery	Meats	Dairy products	Eggs	Fruits and veg.	Pov-erages	Fats and oils	Sugar and sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	-1.0	-0.2	0.0	0.0	+3.5	-6.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2
Baltimore	-2.0	+ .1	- .9	0	+5.1	-7.1	+ .2	+ .7	0
Charleston, S.C.	- .5	+ .2	- .2	- .3	+8.0	-4.3	+ .1	+ .5	+ .2
Jacksonville	- .5	0	+1.0	- .2	+8.6	-5.2	0	0	0
Norfolk	-2.6	- .1	0	+ .2	+4.4	-11.9	0	0	0
Richmond	-1.8	- .2	- .2	0	+7.0	-9.8	0	+ .1	0
Savannah	-1.2	0	- .1	- .1	+1.5	-5.9	+ .1	+ .5	+ .4
Washington, D.C.	-1.1	0	-1.0	0	+6.4	-3.8	- .2	+ .2	+ .1
Winston-Salem	-1.0	- .5	- .1	- .1	+11.4	-7.4	0	+ .5	+ .2
East South Central:									
Birmingham	-3.5	+1.3	+ .4	+ .2	+2.9	-16.7	0	+ .4	0
Jackson 1/	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Knoxville	- .4	+ .1	+ .3	0	+10.6	-4.8	0	+ .4	- .1
Louisville	-1.3	0	0	0	+5.0	-7.7	0	+ .3	+ .5
Memphis	-1.2	- .1	+ .5	+ .1	+1.6	-5.5	- .5	+ .3	+ .1
Mobile	- .3	+ .1	+ .1	0	+7.3	-4.1	+ .1	0	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	- .4	0	+1.2	0	+4.6	-4.5	+1.6	0	0
Houston	- .2	- .3	- .3	0	+3.4	-1.7	- .2	+ .2	+ .6
Little Rock	- .2	0	0	- .1	+9.2	-2.9	0	- .1	0
New Orleans	+ .3	0	+ .9	- .1	+2.2	- .4	0	+ .1	- .2
Mountain:									
Butte	- .4	0	- .6	0	+6.3	-2.1	0	- .1	0
Denver	- .5	- .3	- .1	+ .1	+7.9	-2.9	0	+ .2	+ .2
Salt Lake City	+ .3	+ .1	- .2	+ .1	+2.7	+ .4	0	+1.9	+ .2
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	+ .2	+1.4	+ .2	- .1	+4.7	-1.3	0	- .1	+ .1
Portland, Oreg.	- .3	0	- .2	+ .2	+ .7	-1.3	0	+ .1	- .1
San Francisco	+ .6	0	- .1	0	+7.1	- .4	- .1	0	0
Seattle	+ .1	- .2	0	0	+4.7	-1.1	- .1	0	+ .3

1/ Data not yet available for September.

Table 8 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity		Sept. 12 1944 Average prices Cents	Percent Change				
			Aug. 15 1944 to Sept. 12 1944	Sept. 14 1943 to Sept. 12 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Sept. 12 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Sept. 12 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Sept. 12 1944
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.4	-0.3	+3.7	+18.6	+55.6	+79.9
Macaroni	lb.	15.7	- .6	0	+11.3	+13.8	+12.1
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.2	0	- .9	- 3.3	- 1.3	- 4.1
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.5	0	-1.5	- 7.1	- 8.5	- 7.1
Corn meal	lb.	6.3	0	+6.8	+26.0	+50.0	+57.5
*Rice	"	12.8	- .8	+ .8	+ 2.4	+62.0	+70.7
Rolled oats	"	10.0	+1.0	+14.9	+14.9	+40.8	+40.8
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	12.2	0	+15.1	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	0	-1.1	+ 1.1	+12.8	+12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.6	0	-1.0	+ 1.1	+10.3	+ 9.1
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	-2.0	+ 2.1	+10.0	+ 7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	27.8	-1.1	-3.5	+ 3.0	+10.8	<u>2/</u>
Soda crackers	"	18.9	- .5	+2.2	+13.9	+26.0	+27.7
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	40.9	- .7	-1.4	- 7.5	+ 6.0	+12.4
Rib roast	"	32.9	- .6	-2.7	- 5.2	+ 4.4	+13.8
Chuck roast	"	28.5	- .7	-1.7	- 5.0	+13.1	+26.7
*Stew meat	"	30.6	-1.3	-1.0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver	"	37.2	0	+2.5	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Hamburger	"	27.5	- .7	-3.5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	44.7	-1.1	-2.4	-18.6	- 1.1	+ 5.2
*Roast, boned & rolled	"	35.4	+1.1	+ .6	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:							
Chops	"	37.3	0	-1.6	-13.5	+28.2	+20.7
Bacon, sliced	"	40.9	0	-2.6	0	+35.9	+34.5
Ham, sliced	"	50.3	- .2	-3.6	-15.6	+11.5	+ 8.4
Ham, whole	"	35.3	0	-1.9	- 7.8	+34.7	+28.8
Salt pork	"	22.1	0	-2.6	- 7.1	+32.3	+43.5
*Liver	"	21.9	0	-1.4	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage	"	38.2	+ .3	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologna, big	"	34.1	0	-1.2	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:							
Leg	"	39.9	- .2	- .7	+ 5.3	+43.5	+44.6
Rib chops	"	45.1	- .4	-2.0	- 4.2	+28.9	+22.9

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Table 8 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Sept. 12 1944 Average prices Cents	Percent Change				
		Aug. 15 1944 to Sept. 12 1944	Sept. 14 1943 to Sept. 12 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Sept. 12 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Sept. 12 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Sept. 12 1944
MEATS: (Continued)						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens <u>2/</u> lb.	44.6	- 0.3	+ 1.2	+11.7	+53.6	+57.8
Fish:						
Fish (fresh, frozen) <u>2/</u> lb. <u>1/</u>		+ 1.4	- 4.6	+20.9	+72.4	+103.4
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	22.9	- 3.0	- 3.0	+ 5.0	+45.9	+78.9
*Salmon, red "	40.4	0	- 3.1	- .5	+53.0	+74.9
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter lb.	50.0	0	- 1.0	- 1.2	+31.6	+62.9
Cheese "	36.1	0	- 2.4	+ 5.2	+33.7	+46.2
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	+ .6	+ 4.0	+20.0	+30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	+ .7	+ 7.4	+21.8	+31.8
Milk, evaporated <u>1 1/2</u> oz. can	10.0	0	- 1.0	+12.4	+40.8	+49.3
EGGS:						
Eggs, fresh <u>2/</u> doz.	59.6	+ 5.4	- 5.4	+ 8.2	+72.5	+85.2
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits and vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples lb.	9.7	-11.8	- 9.3	+56.5	+86.5	+120.5
Bananas "	11.1	- .9	- 9.8	+ 7.8	+68.2	+82.0
Oranges doz.	50.6	- .6	- 2.3	+29.4	+85.3	+60.6
*Grapefruit each	11.0	+ 5.8	+ 8.9	+17.0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green lb.	17.2	+22.0	+12.4	+48.3	+22.9	+138.9
Cabbage "	5.0	+ 2.0	+ 2.0	+28.2	+47.1	+28.2
Carrots bunch	8.9	+ 2.3	- 1.1	+29.0	+48.3	+93.5
Lettuce head	12.1	+12.0	- 7.6	- 3.2	+44.0	+44.0
Onions lb.	5.5	-15.4	-24.7	+22.2	+52.8	+52.8
Potatoes 15 lb.	72.4	- 9.6	+19.5	+49.9	+147.9	+110.5
Spinach lb.	12.9	+11.2	+ 3.2	+20.6	+76.7	+65.4
Sweetpotatoes "	8.7	-29.3	-14.7	+35.9	+74.0	+58.2
*Beets bunch	7.7	+ 5.5	- 7.2	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>
Canned fruits and vegetables:						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches #2 <u>1/2</u> can	28.0	+ 1.1	+ 4.9	+16.7	+69.7	+63.7
Pineapple "	27.3	0	- 2.5	- 3.5	+30.6	+30.0
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.3	- .7	- .7	+15.3	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

Table 8 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity		Sept. 12 1944 Average prices Cents	Percent Change				
			Aug. 15 1944 to Sept. 12 1944	Sept. 14 1943 to Sept. 12 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Sept. 12 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Sept. 12 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Sept. 12 1944
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green	#2 can	13.1	-0.8	-10.3	-4.4	+31.0	+31.0
Corn	"	14.5	0	+ 3.6	+9.0	+35.5	+39.4
Peas	"	13.2	+ .8	- 8.3	-9.6	0	- 2.9
Tomatoes	"	12.0	0	- 4.0	+3.4	+42.9	+39.5
*Soup, vegetable	11 oz. can	13.4	0	+ 4.7	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits and vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes	lb.	17.3	0	+ 4.8	+16.9	+80.2	+96.6
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans	lb.	10.9	+ .9	+ 6.9	+19.8	+67.7	+87.9
*Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle	oz.	3.6	0	- 2.7	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee	lb.	30.2	+ .3	+ .7	+5.2	+45.9	+35.4
Tea	lb.	23.9	0	+ 1.7	+6.7	+35.8	+39.0
*Cocoa	lb.	10.4	+1.0	+14.3	+2.0	+14.3	+20.9
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard	lb.	18.7	+ .5	- 1.1	+8.1	+101.1	+88.9
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons	lb.	20.2	0	+ 1.0	+3.6	+78.8	+72.6
In other containers	"	24.8	0	0	+1.6	+35.5	+22.8
Salad dressing	pt.	25.8	+ .8	+ 2.0	+2.4	+28.4	<u>2/</u>
Oleomargarine	lb.	24.0	0	0	+7.1	+53.8	+45.5
Peanut butter	"	28.4	0	-15.0	+2.2	+58.7	+58.7
*Oil, cooking or salad	pt.	30.6	- .3	+ .3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar	lb.	6.7	0	- 1.5	-2.9	+31.4	+28.8
Corn sirup	24 oz.	15.8	0	- .6	+4.6	+16.2	+15.3
*Molasses	18 oz.	15.8	0	- .6	+6.0	+17.9	+16.2
*Apple butter	16 oz.	13.4	+ .8	+ 1.5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 9 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100					Percent Change			
	Sept. 12	Aug. 15	Sept. 14	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15	Sept. 14	Sept. 15	Jan. 14
	2/1944	1944	1943	1942	1941	1944	1943	1942	1941
						to Sept. 12 1944	to Sept. 12 1944	to Sept. 12 1944	to Sept. 12 1944
United States	137.0	137.7	137.4	126.6	97.8	-0.5	-0.3	+8.2	+40.1
New England:									
Boston	132.9	132.2	131.0	124.4	95.2	+ .5	+1.5	+6.3	+39.6
Bridgeport	135.1	135.1	136.0	127.1	96.5	0	- .7	+6.3	+40.0
Fall River	132.4	132.3	133.4	125.7	97.5	+ .1	- .7	+5.3	+35.8
Manchester	134.2	135.0	133.9	126.8	96.6	- .6	+ .2	+5.8	+38.9
New Haven	136.3	136.0	136.6	126.2	95.7	+ .2	- .2	+8.0	+42.4
Portland, Me.	133.6	136.5	132.7	125.8	95.3	-2.1	+ .7	+6.2	+40.2
Providence	135.9	136.8	135.5	126.3	96.3	- .7	+ .3	+7.6	+41.1
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	134.8	134.0	137.3	127.6	100.2	+ .6	-1.8	+5.6	+34.5
Newark	138.5	138.4	139.6	128.0	98.8	+ .1	- .8	+8.2	+40.2
New York	137.3	138.9	138.4	125.2	99.5	-1.2	- .8	+9.7	+38.0
Philadelphia	134.9	136.1	135.2	123.9	95.0	- .9	- .2	+8.9	+42.0
Pittsburgh	138.0	138.7	137.4	125.9	98.0	- .5	+ .4	+9.6	+40.8
Rochester	133.8	133.0	132.1	125.2	99.9	+ .6	+1.3	+6.9	+33.9
Scranton	138.1	138.8	137.2	125.6	97.5	- .5	+ .7	+10.0	+41.6
East North Central:									
Chicago	137.3	137.1	137.0	124.9	98.2	+ .1	+ .2	+9.9	+39.8
Cincinnati	135.8	136.8	136.2	126.9	96.5	- .7	- .3	+7.0	+40.7
Cleveland	142.8	144.3	143.9	127.3	99.2	-1.0	- .8	+12.2	+44.0
Columbus, Ohio	129.4	130.2	130.9	119.6	93.4	- .6	-1.1	+8.2	+38.5
Detroit	134.0	134.4	133.6	124.7	97.0	- .3	+ .3	+7.5	+38.1
Indianapolis	134.3	134.4	134.6	127.1	98.2	- .1	- .2	+5.7	+36.8
Milwaukee	135.5	136.4	133.6	121.0	95.9	- .7	+1.4	+12.0	+41.3
Peoria	140.6	141.1	140.6	130.7	99.0	- .4	0	+7.6	+42.0
Springfield, Ill.	142.5	142.5	141.6	130.2	96.2	0	+ .6	+9.4	+48.1
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids <u>4/</u>	139.0	139.1	136.1	121.2	95.9	- .1	+2.1	+14.7	+44.9
Kansas City	130.9	131.2	132.6	120.7	92.4	- .2	-1.3	+8.5	+41.7
Minneapolis	129.7	130.5	130.4	123.3	99.0	- .6	- .5	+5.2	+31.0
Omaha	129.9	129.7	131.6	123.2	97.9	+ .2	-1.3	+5.4	+32.7
St. Louis	139.8	140.1	139.1	126.7	99.2	- .2	+ .5	+10.3	+40.9
St. Paul	127.9	128.5	128.7	120.8	98.6	- .5	- .6	+5.9	+29.7
Wichita <u>4/</u>	147.0	147.8	146.8	132.0	97.2	- .5	+ .1	+11.4	+51.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

Table 9 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941 and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Sept. 12	Aug. 15	Sept. 14	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15	Sept. 14	Sept. 15	Jan. 14
	1944	1944	1943	1942	1941	1944	1943	1942	1941
	2/					to	to	to	to
						Sept. 12	Sept. 12	Sept. 12	Sept. 12
						1944	1944	1944	1944
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	137.8	139.2	139.9	125.9	94.3	-1.0	-1.5	+9.5	+46.1
Baltimore	140.7	143.5	145.3	131.2	97.9	-2.0	-3.2	+7.2	+43.7
Charleston, S.C.	134.7	135.4	136.4	126.6	95.9	-.5	-1.2	+6.4	+40.5
Jacksonville	148.1	148.9	150.0	134.2	98.8	-.5	-1.3	+10.4	+49.9
Norfolk 3/	141.1	144.8	149.7	131.9	95.8	-2.6	-5.7	+7.0	+47.3
Richmond	134.1	136.5	136.7	126.2	93.7	-1.8	-1.9	+6.3	+43.1
Savannah	152.8	154.7	152.5	133.3	100.5	-1.2	+.2	+14.6	+52.0
Washington, D.C.	135.2	136.7	138.5	123.1	97.7	-1.1	-2.4	+5.5	+38.4
Winston-Salem 4/	137.4	138.8	138.6	119.8	93.7	-1.0	-.9	+14.7	+46.6
East South Central:									
Birmingham	140.3	145.4	142.9	125.3	96.0	-3.5	-1.8	+12.0	+46.1
Jackson 5/	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Knoxville 4/	157.9	158.6	157.9	134.2	97.1	-.4	0	+17.7	+62.6
Louisville	131.7	133.4	134.9	124.2	95.5	-1.3	-2.4	+6.0	+37.9
Memphis	146.5	148.3	148.2	129.7	94.2	-1.2	-1.1	+13.0	+55.5
Mobile	146.6	147.1	147.9	133.9	97.9	-.3	-.9	+9.5	+49.7
West South Central:									
Dallas	132.9	133.5	134.8	123.7	92.6	-.4	-1.4	+7.4	+43.5
Houston	137.5	137.8	138.7	130.8	102.6	-.2	-.9	+5.1	+34.0
Little Rock	137.4	137.7	135.0	129.2	95.6	-.2	+1.8	+6.3	+43.7
New Orleans	153.1	152.7	151.7	135.9	101.9	+.3	+.9	+12.7	+50.2
Mountain:									
Butte	133.1	133.7	136.0	124.6	98.7	-.4	-2.1	+6.8	+34.9
Denver	136.4	137.1	134.8	126.8	94.8	-.5	+1.2	+7.6	+43.9
Salt Lake City	140.3	139.9	138.6	130.1	97.5	+.3	+1.2	+7.8	+43.9
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	141.4	141.1	141.8	137.9	101.8	+.2	-.3	+2.5	+38.9
Portland, Oreg.	144.8	145.3	144.8	141.2	101.7	-.3	0	+2.5	+42.4
San Francisco	143.3	142.4	139.9	133.5	99.6	+.6	+2.4	+7.3	+43.9
Seattle	141.7	141.6	142.4	137.3	101.0	+.1	-.5	+3.2	+40.3

- 1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.
- 2/ Preliminary.
- 3/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.
- 4/ June 1940 equals 100.
- 5/ Data not yet available for September.

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November 26, 1944

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

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COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD - OCTOBER 1944

The BLS index indicates average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. The items covered represented 70 percent of the expenditures of families who had incomes ranging from \$1250 to \$2000 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods and forced changes in housing and eating away from home.

It does not measure changes in total "living costs"--that is, in the total amount families spend for living. Income taxes and bond subscriptions are not included.

For a description of the methods used in computing the index, ask for "Description of the Cost of Living Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics." For an appraisal of the factors enumerated above, see the report of the President's Committee on the Cost of Living, November 17, 1944.

Lower prices of fresh fruits and vegetables brought the average cost of living essentials down slightly (by 0.1 percent) in the month ending October 15, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins reported today. "Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous items continued to rise moderately," she said, "while utilities and fuel costs remained stable.

"The Bureau of Labor Statistics index of the cost of living in October 1944 is 126.4 percent of the 1935-39 average, and 28.2 percent above the level of August 1939.

"The cost of the food budget of moderate-income families dropped 0.4 percent between mid-September and mid-October, as marked decreases in the prices of fresh fruits and vegetables more than offset seasonally higher prices of eggs. Prices for most meats remained unchanged or increased slightly, reflecting limited civilian supplies. This is contrary to the usual large seasonal declines. Fresh fish prices increased for the fourth consecutive month.

(more)

"Record harvests of fall vegetables, 14 percent above the 1933-42 average, were reflected in large decreases in the prices of sweetpotatoes (18 percent), green beans (14 percent), onions (13 percent), spinach (12 percent), and over 5 percent for potatoes and cabbage.

"Clothing prices rose 0.2 percent over the month. There were scattered increases in prices of men's overcoats and sweaters and women's wool felt hats, resulting in some cases from the re-stocking of all-wool garments in stores which sold blended fabrics last year. There was a slight net increase resulting from widespread small price changes in work clothing articles, as dollar and cents ceilings at the retail level were established by the OPA, causing price decreases in some stores and permitting increases in others. Christmas shoppers found the supply of men's white business shirts extremely limited. Women's cotton housedresses cost more than in September because of the continued disappearance of lower-priced lines.

"Average prices of furniture and cook stoves available in mid-October were slightly higher than a month ago, and the supply of cotton blankets was extremely limited in most large cities of the country. Higher charges for beauty shop services in some cities reflected increased costs of labor and materials. Popular brands of cigarettes were scarce, and many dealers limited sales to one pack per customer, with a consequent small rise in average cigarette prices.

"Fuel, electricity and ice prices on the whole showed little change during the month ending October 15.

"Rents were not surveyed this month."

Table 1

Report for October 15, 1944

- 3 -

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: October 15	124.4	138.2	133.3	108.0	107.8	126.7	117.6
1944: September 15	126.5	137.0	141.4	108.2	109.8	140.7	122.4
October 15	126.4	136.4	141.7	<u>1/</u>	109.8	141.3	122.7

Table 1a

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent <u>2/</u>	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Sept. 15, 1944 to Oct. 15, 1944	- 0.1	- 0.4	/ 0.2	<u>1/</u>	0	/ 0.4	/ 0.2
Oct. 15, 1943 to Oct. 15, 1944	/ 1.6	- 1.3	/ 6.3	/ 0.2	/ 1.9	/ 11.5	/ 4.3
Sept. 15, 1942 to Oct. 15, 1944	/ 7.3	/ 7.7	/ 12.6	/ 0.2	/ 3.4	/ 14.3	/ 10.1
May 15, 1942 to Oct. 15, 1944	/ 9.0	/ 12.2	/ 12.3	- 1.5	/ 4.7	/ 15.6	/ 10.6
Jan. 15, 1941 to Oct. 15, 1944	/ 25.4	/ 39.5	/ 40.7	/ 3.0	/ 8.9	/ 41.2	/ 20.4
Aug. 15, 1939 to Oct. 15, 1944	/ 28.2	/ 45.9	/ 41.3	/ 3.7	/ 12.6	/ 40.5	/ 22.2

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed this month.

2/ Changes through September 15, 1944.

Table 2

- 4 -

Report for Oct. 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent of Change between Sept. 15, 1944 and Oct. 15, 1944 by Groups*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	-0.1 <u>1/</u>	-0.4 <u>2/</u>	+0.2 <u>3/</u>	0 <u>4/</u>	+0.4 <u>3/</u>	+0.2 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	-0.5	-1.4	+0.1	0	+3.0	0 <u>5/</u>
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	-0.1	-0.1	+0.1	0	0	-0.1
New York	0	-0.1	+0.1	0	+0.1	0
Philadelphia	-0.4 <u>5/</u>	-0.9 <u>5/</u>	0	0	-0.1	+0.1
Pittsburgh	-0.3	-1.0	+0.2	0	0	+0.5
East North Central:						
Chicago	-0.2	-1.1	+0.4	0	0	+0.9
Cincinnati	-0.6	-1.8	+0.5	+0.1	+0.5	+0.1
Cleveland	-0.2	-0.6	-0.1	0	0	+0.2
Detroit	-0.2	-0.9	+0.9	0	+0.5	+0.1
West North Central:						
Kansas City	-0.2	-0.9	+0.2	0	+0.2	0
Minneapolis	+0.2	+0.5	+0.6	0	0	0
St. Louis	-0.5	-1.3	0	0	0	0
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	+0.4	+0.9	+0.2	-0.1	+0.3	0
Savannah	-0.4	-1.2	+0.6	0	+0.3	0
Washington, D. C.	0	-0.4	+0.1	-0.1	0	+0.4
East South Central:						
Birmingham	-0.2	-0.6	0	+0.3	0	0
West South Central:						
Houston	-0.2	-0.7	+0.1	0	+0.3	0
Mountain:						
Denver	+0.2	-0.1	+0.2	0	+0.9	+1.2
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	+0.5	+1.1	+0.1	0	+1.4	0
San Francisco	+0.8	+1.3	+0.7	0	0	+0.5
Seattle	+0.5	+1.1	0	0	0	0

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed this month.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest 15th of month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

5/ Indexes for Sept. 1944 Revised.

Boston - Miscellaneous - 117.2

Philadelphia - All Items - 125.5, Food - 134.7

Table 3

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and Other Specified Dates*

Region and City	Oct. 15, 1943 to Oct. 15, 1944	Aug. 15, 1939 to Oct. 15, 1944	Jan. 1, 1941 to Oct. 15, 1944	May 15, 1942 to Oct. 15, 1944	Sept. 15, 1942 to Oct. 15, 1944
Average: Large Cities	+1.6	+28.2	+25.4	+ 9.0	+ 7.3
New England:					
Boston	+0.9	+26.4	+23.8	+ 8.2	+ 5.6
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+0.7	+28.9	+24.6	+ 5.4	+ 5.4
New York	+2.1	+28.4	+25.8	+12.2	+ 9.3
Philadelphia	+1.1	+27.8	+26.0	+ 9.0	+ 6.9
Pittsburgh	+2.0	+29.6	+26.0	+10.1	+ 8.5
East North Central:					
Chicago	+1.6	+27.5	+24.3	+ 8.0	+ 7.2
Cincinnati	+1.3	+29.1	+26.1	+ 8.4	+ 6.4
Cleveland	+1.2	+30.1	+27.5	+ 9.5	+ 8.8
Detroit	+1.8	+29.1	+25.9	+ 7.1	+ 7.4
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+1.8	+25.8	+26.0	+ 8.7	+ 8.1
Minneapolis	+1.0	+23.3	+20.7	+ 6.0	+ 5.2
St. Louis	+1.5	+27.0	+23.4	+ 7.8	+ 6.9
South Atlantic:					
Baltimore	+1.0	+29.9	+27.3	+ 8.5	+ 7.0
Savannah	+1.5	+35.4	+32.6	+11.2	+10.2
Washington, D. C.	+0.5	+26.6	+24.9	+ 8.8	+ 6.6
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+1.9	+31.7	+27.7	+ 9.3	+ 9.2
West South Central:					
Houston	+0.9	+23.6	+22.1	+ 7.1	+ 5.5
Mountain:					
Denver	+2.7	+27.0	+25.2	+ 8.3	+ 6.8
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+1.9	+28.1	+25.6	+ 9.0	+ 5.8
San Francisco	+3.2	+31.8	+28.6	+11.3	+ 8.3
Seattle	+1.8	+30.1	+27.8	+ 7.7	+ 6.4

* These percents of change are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 4

Report for October 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*

Region and city	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	126.4 <u>1/</u>	136.4 <u>2/</u>	141.7 <u>3/</u>	109.8 <u>4/</u>	141.3 <u>3/</u>	122.7 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	122.7	131.1	139.3	120.0	138.3	117.2
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	127.0	134.7	139.5	106.9	142.2	126.1
New York	127.1	137.2	147.6	113.8	134.0	125.6
Philadelphia	125.0	133.5	143.2	109.1	139.0	119.9
Pittsburgh	127.5	136.6	159.7	112.0	136.5	119.5
East North Central:						
Chicago	125.8	135.8	136.3	105.2	139.8	120.9
Cincinnati	125.6	133.4	141.5	106.2	145.4	123.5
Cleveland	130.1	141.9	142.3	115.3	139.7	122.1
Detroit	127.2	132.8	140.3	112.3	143.3	128.5
West North Central:						
Kansas City	124.0	129.7	140.2	110.2	128.1	125.0
Minneapolis	122.9	130.4	137.3	103.1	134.2	122.0
St. Louis	124.6	138.0	139.7	107.2	126.0	118.4
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	128.2	142.0	146.2	108.9	147.1	120.8
Savannah	134.5	150.9	142.5	112.0	140.2	129.4
Washington, D.C.	124.8	134.7	149.0	108.8	137.7	126.5
East South Central:						
Birmingham	129.7	139.5	139.9	104.5	138.9	124.4
West South Central:						
Houston	124.5	136.6	137.4	91.1	128.5	122.9
Mountain:						
Denver	125.2	136.2	133.4	104.1	146.6	122.0
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	128.7	143.0	139.7	92.5	138.4	125.2
San Francisco	130.9	145.2	139.8	92.6	138.7	130.5
Seattle	130.5	143.3	141.6	103.5	131.0	130.6

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed this month.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

Table 5. Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined 1/
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity group	1944		1943		1942	1941	1939
	2/ Oct. 17	3/ Sept. 12	Oct. 19	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15	
All foods	136.4	137.0	138.2	126.6	97.8	93.5	
Cereals and bakery products	108.6	108.6 3/	108.3	105.4	94.9	93.4	
Meats	129.4	129.0	130.6	130.6	101.1	95.7	
Beef and veal	118.2	118.3	119.9	126.0	109.4	99.6	
Pork	112.2	112.2	113.5	124.0	86.1	88.0	
Lamb	134.7	134.6	134.9	133.7	98.7	98.8	
Chickens	149.9	149.3	147.0	133.7	97.2	94.6	
Fish, fresh and canned	205.8	200.4	216.5	168.2	118.7	99.6	
Dairy products	133.7	133.6	133.5	127.7	105.1	93.1	
Eggs	179.0	168.0	190.1	155.2	97.4	90.7	
Fruits and vegetables	162.9	169.9	166.4	129.7	93.3	92.4	
Fresh	170.4	179.4	174.9	130.3	93.4	92.8	
Canned	129.7	129.4	130.0	123.8	91.4	91.6	
Dried	165.7	165.3 3/	161.5	143.4	99.6	90.3	
Beverages	124.3	124.3	125.1	123.8	90.9	94.9	
Fats and oils	123.1	123.0	126.5	120.7	80.3	84.5	
Sugar and sweets	126.4	126.3	126.8	127.0	95.3	95.6	

1/ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

Table 5-A. Percent Change

Commodity group	Sept. 12 1944 to Oct. 17 1944	Oct. 19 1943 to Oct. 17 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Oct. 17 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Oct. 17 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Oct. 17 1944
All foods	- 0.4	- 1.3	+ 7.7	+39.5	+45.9
Cereals and bakery products	0	+ .3	+ 3.0	+14.4	+16.3
Meats	+ .3	- .9	- .9	+28.0	+35.2
Beef and veal	- .1	- 1.4	- 6.2	+ 8.0	+18.7
Pork	0	- 1.1	- 9.5	+30.3	+27.5
Lamb	+ .1	- .1	+ .7	+36.5	+36.3
Chickens	+ .4	+ 2.0	+12.1	+54.2	+58.5
Fish, fresh and canned	+ 2.7	- 4.9	+22.4	+73.4	+106.6
Dairy products	+ .1	+ .1	+ 4.7	+27.2	+43.6
Eggs	+ 6.5	- 5.8	+15.3	+83.8	+97.4
Fruits and vegetables	- 4.1	- 2.1	+25.6	+74.6	+76.3
Fresh	- 5.0	- 2.6	+30.8	+82.4	+83.6
Canned	+ .2	- .2	+ 4.8	+41.9	+41.6
Dried	+ .2	+ 2.6	+15.6	+66.4	+83.5
Beverages	0	- .6	+ .4	+36.7	+31.0
Fats and oils	+ .1	- 2.7	+ 2.0	+53.3	+45.7
Sugar and sweets	+ .1	- .3	- .5	+32.6	+32.2

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

Region and City	Percent Change - Sept. 12, 1944 to Oct. 17, 1944								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
United States	-0.4	0.0	+0.3	+0.1	+6.5	-4.1	0.0	+0.1	+0.1
New England:									
Boston	-1.4	- .4	+ .8	- .2	+4.0	-7.8	0	+ .2	- .9
Bridgeport	+ .2	+ .2	- .4	- .2	+6.5	- .8	+ .2	- .2	0
Fall River	- .9	0	+ .2	0	+3.6	-5.9	0	+ .2	+ .2
Manchester	- .6	+ .1	+ .3	0	+3.2	-4.8	+ .5	+ .2	- .5
New Haven	- .4	+ .1	+ .2	+ .2	+3.7	-3.1	+ .2	+ .1	- .2
Portland, Me.	+ .1	- .2	+1.1	+ .2	+4.5	-2.4	+ .1	+ .1	- .8
Providence	-1.0	+ .2	+ .2	- .3	+4.2	-5.1	- .1	+ .1	+ .5
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	- .1	+ .1	+ .2	- .1	+7.8	-3.0	0	+ .6	0
Newark	+ .2	0	+2.4	0	+4.3	-3.4	- .2	- .1	+ .1
New York	- .1	+ .3	+ .9	+ .3	+3.4	-2.5	+ .2	+ .1	- .2
Philadelphia	- .9	0	- .1	0	+4.7	-5.4	0	- .2	+ .2
Pittsburgh	-1.0	+ .1	+ .2	0	+6.5	-6.5	- .1	0	+ .5
Rochester	-1.0	+ .1	+ .5	0	+6.7	-8.7	- .1	- .2	- .2
Scranton	0	- .2	+ .1	0	+4.0	-1.3	0	+1.1	+ .1
East North Central:									
Chicago	-1.1	0	- .2	+ .2	+8.9	-6.2	+ .1	- .2	- .2
Cincinnati	-1.8	- .2	+ .1	0	+6.4	-7.7	+ .1	+ .2	+ .5
Cleveland	- .6	- .2	- .2	+ .1	+5.3	-3.3	+ .1	- .1	+1.1
Columbus, Ohio	- .5	- .3	- .2	+ .4	+6.5	-6.4	0	+ .6	+1.9
Detroit	- .9	0	+ .1	0	+7.4	-5.5	- .6	- .1	- .9
Indianapolis	-1.2	- .1	0	+ .2	+5.8	-7.8	0	+ .5	+2.1
Milwaukee	+ .1	0	- .1	+ .2	+9.2	-2.1	+ .4	+ .1	- .1
Peoria	- .5	0	- .5	- .1	+6.8	-2.1	0	- .8	0
Springfield, Ill.	-1.0	0	+ .1	+ .1	+5.2	-4.8	0	- .7	+2.0
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	- .1	+ .1	-1.7	0	+8.0	-1.0	- .1	+ .4	+ .2
Kansas City	- .9	0	- .1	+ .1	+4.3	-5.4	0	- .1	- .4
Minneapolis	+ .5	- .1	- .4	- .1	+12.2	-1.3	- .2	- .1	- .2
Omaha	+ .1	- .2	- .4	0	+8.7	-1.5	- .1	+ .8	0
St. Louis	-1.3	+ .1	- .1	- .1	+7.4	-6.1	0	- .3	+1.3
St. Paul	+ .3	0	-1.0	+ .1	+10.5	-1.0	0	- .2	- .2
Wichita	- .1	- .1	+ .2	0	+7.4	-3.4	+ .1	- .2	- .1

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods (Cont'd)

Region and City	Percent Change - Sept. 12, 1944 to Oct. 17, 1944								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	-0.7	0.0	/ 0.6	/ 0.2	/ 9.5	-8.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Baltimore	/ .9	- .1	/ 1.5	0	/ 8.5	- .8	- .2	/ 1.4	0
Charleston, S.C.	- .1	/ .5	/ .2	/ .2	/ 7.2	-3.5	0	- .1	0
Jacksonville	-1.4	0	0	- .2	/ 8.4	-8.5	- .1	/ .2	0
Norfolk	- .2	- .2	/ 1.6	0	/ 8.0	-5.8	0	/ .1	0
Richmond	/ .4	- .2	/ 1.2	/ .1	/ 10.2	-4.7	0	/ .9	0
Savannah	-1.2	- .2	- .2	/ .2	/ 4.7	-6.7	/ .1	- .5	- .2
Washington, D.C.	- .4	/ .1	/ 1.8	0	/ 10.3	-5.6	/ .1	/ .2	0
Winston-Salem	/ .1	0	- .1	0	/ 10.1	-2.6	- .1	- .1	/ .2
East South Central:									
Birmingham	- .6	/ .6	- .7	- .2	/ 8.1	-6.3	0	/ .2	- .2
Jackson	- .9	0	- .2	0	/ 4.7	-5.5	/ .1	- .1	- .1
Knoxville	-1.0	- .8	- .2	0	/ 6.7	-5.9	/ 1.1	/ 1.0	- .3
Louisville	- .5	/ .1	0	0	/ 9.4	-6.5	0	0	/ .1
Memphis	-1.1	- .3	- .6	- .1	/ 8.5	-5.7	- .5	- .6	/ .2
Mobile	- .8	/ .5	0	0	/ 7.7	-6.9	- .3	/ .1	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	- .8	/ .1	- .1	- .4	/ 5.9	-5.0	/ 1.8	/ .3	0
Houston	- .7	/ .2	/ .1	/ .2	/ 5.7	-4.9	0	/ .2	/ .7
Little Rock	-1.5	- .1	- .5	- .1	/ 5.0	-7.1	/ 2.4	/ .2	0
New Orleans	-1.6	0	/ .2	0	/ 4.9	-7.4	0	/ .3	- .1
Mountain:									
Butte	0	/ .3	/ .4	/ .1	/ 14.5	-3.6	/ .2	0	0
Denver	- .1	- .2	- .5	- .1	/ 9.9	-1.7	- .1	/ .2	- .1
Salt Lake City	/ .7	0	- .1	0	/ 13.3	-1.0	0	0	/ .3
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	/ 1.1	/ .2	/ .4	/ .1	/ 8.9	/ .5	- .1	/ .9	0
Portland, Oreg.	/ 1.2	/ .1	- .5	0	/ 18.8	- .3	/ .1	- .1	0
San Francisco	/ 1.3	0	/ .1	- .4	/ 7.6	/ 2.5	/ 1.0	-1.8	/ .1
Seattle	/ 1.1	/ .1	- .1	0	/ 13.9	- .5	/ .3	/ .1	/ .5

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity		Oct. 17 1944 Average Prices Cents	Percent Change				
			Sept. 12 1944 to Oct. 17 1944	Oct. 19 1943 to Oct. 17 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Oct. 17 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Oct. 17 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Oct. 17 1944
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.1	-0.5	+ 2.4	+18.0	+54.8	+79.1
Macaroni	lb.	15.7	0	+ .6	+11.3	+13.8	+12.1
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.2	0	- .9	- 3.3	- 1.3	- 4.1
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.5	0	- 1.5	- 7.1	- 3.5	- 7.1
Corn meal	lb.	6.4	+1.6	+ 8.5	+28.0	+52.4	+60.0
*Rice	"	12.8	0	+ .8	+ 2.4	+62.0	+70.7
Rolled oats	"	10.1	+1.0	+16.1	+16.1	+42.3	+42.3
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	12.2	0	+ 5.2	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	0	- 1.1	+ 1.1	+12.8	+12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.6	0	- 2.0	+ 1.1	+10.3	+ 9.1
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	- 2.0	+ 2.1	+10.0	+ 7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	28.2	+1.4	- 1.1	+ 4.4	+12.4	<u>2/</u>
Soda crackers	"	18.9	0	+ 2.2	+13.9	+26.0	+27.7
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	40.7	- .5	- 2.9	- 7.9	+ 5.4	+11.8
Rib roast	"	33.0	+ .3	- 2.9	- 4.9	+ 4.8	+14.2
Chuck roast	"	28.4	- .4	- 2.7	- 5.3	+12.7	+26.2
*Stew meat	"	30.6	0	- 1.6	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver	"	37.3	+ .3	+ .8	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Hamburger	"	27.5	0	- 4.2	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	44.6	- .2	- 3.7	-18.8	- 1.3	+ 4.9
*Roast, boned and rolled	"	35.9	+1.4	- 2.2	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:							
Chops	"	37.2	- .3	- 1.3	-13.7	+27.8	+20.4
Bacon, sliced	"	40.9	0	- 2.2	0	+35.9	+34.5
Ham, sliced	"	50.0	- .6	- 3.5	-16.1	+10.9	+ 7.8
Ham, whole	"	35.2	- .3	- 1.4	- 8.1	+34.4	+28.5
Salt pork	"	22.3	+ .9	- 1.8	- 6.3	+33.5	+44.8
*Liver	"	22.0	+ .5	- .9	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage	"	38.5	+ .8	+ .5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologna, big	"	34.2	+ .3	- 1.2	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:							
Leg	"	39.9	0	- 1.2	+ 5.3	+43.5	+44.6
Rib chops	"	45.2	+ .2	- 1.3	- 4.0	+29.1	+23.2

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Percent Change					
	Oct. 17 1944 Average Prices Cents	Sept. 12 1944 to Oct. 17 1944	Oct. 19 1943 to Oct. 17 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Oct. 17 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Oct. 17 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Oct. 17 1944
MEATS: (Continued)						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens <u>2/</u> lb.	44.9	+ 0.4	+ 2.0	+12.1	+54.2	+58.5
Fish:						
Fish (fresh, frozen) <u>2/</u> lb.	1/	+ 3.2	- 5.8	+24.7	+77.9	+109.9
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.0	+ .4	- 2.1	+ 5.5	+46.5	+79.7
*Salmon, red "	40.9	+ 1.2	- 1.0	+ .7	+54.9	+77.1
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter lb.	49.9	- .2	- 1.2	- 1.4	+31.3	+62.5
Cheese "	36.1	0	+ .6	+ 5.2	+33.7	+46.2
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	+ .6	+ 4.0	+20.0	+30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	+ .7	+ 7.4	+21.8	+31.8
Milk, evaporated <u>1 1/2</u> oz. can	10.0	0	0	+12.4	+40.8	+49.3
EGGS:						
Eggs, fresh <u>2/</u> doz.	63.5	+ 6.5	- 5.8	+15.3	+83.8	+97.4
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits and vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples lb.	9.8	+ 1.0	- 7.5	+58.1	+88.5	+122.7
Bananas "	11.1	0	- 9.8	+ 7.8	+68.2	+82.0
Oranges doz.	49.6	- 2.0	- 4.2	+26.9	+81.7	+57.5
*Grapefruit each	9.2	-16.4	- 8.0	- 2.1	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green lb.	14.7	-14.5	-16.9	+26.7	+ 5.0	+104.2
Cabbage "	4.7	- 6.0	+ 2.2	+20.5	+38.2	+20.5
Carrots bunch	8.9	0	- 7.3	+29.0	+48.3	+93.5
Lettuce head	12.2	0	- 6.9	- 2.4	+45.2	+45.2
Onions lb.	4.8	-12.7	-29.4	+ 6.7	+33.3	+33.3
Potatoes 15 lb.	67.1	- 7.3	+10.0	+38.9	+129.8	+95.1
Spinach lb.	11.4	-11.6	+12.9	+ 6.5	+56.2	+46.2
Sweetpotatoes "	7.1	-18.4	-14.5	+10.9	+42.0	+29.1
*Beets bunch	7.6	- 1.3	- 5.0	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>
Canned fruits and vegetables:						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches #2 <u>1/2</u> can	27.8	- .7	+ 5.3	+15.8	+68.5	+62.6
Pineapple "	27.5	+ .7	+ 1.4	- 2.8	+31.6	+31.0
Grapefruit juice # 2 can	14.4	+ .7	0	+16.1	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Percent change						
	Oct. 17 1944 Average Prices Cents	Sept. 12 1944 to Oct. 17 1944	Oct. 19 1943 to Oct. 17 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Oct. 17 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Oct. 17 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Oct. 17 1944	
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green	#2 can	13.1	0.0	- 9.7	- 4.4	+31.0	+31.0
Corn	"	14.6	+ .7	+ 3.5	+ 9.8	+36.4	+40.4
Peas	"	13.3	+ .8	- 8.3	- 8.9	+ .8	- 2.2
Tomatoes	"	12.0	0	- 3.2	+ 3.4	+42.9	+39.5
*Soup, vegetable 11 oz. can		13.4	0	+ 5.5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits & vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes	lb.	17.0	- 1.7	+ 2.4	+14.9	+77.1	+93.2
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans	lb.	10.9	0	+ 5.8	+19.8	+67.7	+87.9
*Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle	oz.	3.7	+ 2.8	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee	lb.	30.2	0	+ 1.0	+ 5.2	+45.9	+35.4
Tea	$\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	23.9	0	+ 2.1	+ 6.7	+35.8	+39.0
*Cocoa	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	10.4	0	+13.0	+ 2.0	+14.3	+20.9
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard	lb.	18.7	0	- 1.1	+ 8.1	+101.1	+88.9
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons	lb.	20.2	0	+ .5	+ 3.6	+78.8	+72.6
In other containers	"	24.8	0	- .4	+ 1.6	+35.5	+22.8
Salad dressing	pt.	25.7	- .4	+ .8	+ 2.0	+27.9	<u>2/</u>
Oleomargarine	lb.	24.1	+ .4	+ .4	+ 7.6	+54.5	+46.1
Peanut butter	"	28.4	0	-15.0	+ 2.2	+58.7	+58.7
*Oil, cooking or salad	pt.	30.6	0	0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar	lb.	6.7	0	- 1.5	- 2.9	+31.4	+28.8
Corn sirup	24 oz.	15.8	0	- .6	+ 4.6	+16.2	+15.3
*Molasses	18 oz.	15.7	- .6	- .6	+ 5.4	+17.2	+15.4
*Apple butter	16 oz.	13.7	+ 2.2	+ 5.4	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Percent Change				
	Oct.17	Sept.12	Oct.19	Sept.15	Jan.14	Sept.12	Oct.19	Sept.15	Jan.14	
	1944	1944	1943	1942	1941	1944	1943	1942	1941	
	<u>2/</u>					to Oct.17 1944	to Oct.17 1944	to Oct.17 1944	to Oct.17 1944	
United States	136.4	137.0	138.2	126.6	97.8	- 0.4	- 1.3	/ 7.7	/ 39.5	
New England:										
Boston	131.1	132.9	133.1	124.4	95.2	- 1.4	- 1.5	/ 5.4	/ 37.7	
Bridgeport	135.4	135.1	137.1	127.1	96.5	/ .2	- 1.2	/ 6.5	/ 40.3	
Fall River	131.2	132.4	135.2	125.7	97.5	- .9	- 3.0	/ 4.4	/ 34.6	
Manchester	133.4	134.2	134.5	126.8	96.6	- .6	- .8	/ 5.2	/ 38.1	
New Haven	135.7	136.3	138.6	126.2	95.7	- .4	- 2.1	/ 7.5	/ 41.8	
Portland, Maine	133.8	133.6	134.3	125.8	95.3	/ .1	- .4	/ 6.4	/ 40.4	
Providence	134.6	135.9	136.9	126.3	96.3	- 1.0	- 1.7	/ 6.6	/ 39.8	
Middle Atlantic:										
Buffalo	134.7	134.8	138.5	127.6	100.2	- .1	- 2.7	/ 5.6	/ 34.4	
Newark	138.8	138.5	140.8	128.0	98.8	/ .2	- 1.4	/ 8.4	/ 40.5	
New York	137.2	137.3	138.7	125.2	99.5	- .1	- 1.1	/ 9.6	/ 37.9	
Philadelphia	133.5	134.7 ^{3/}	137.1	123.9	95.0	- .9	- 2.6	/ 7.7	/ 40.5	
Pittsburgh	136.6	138.0	138.2	125.9	98.0	- 1.0	- 1.2	/ 8.5	/ 39.4	
Rochester	132.5	133.8	133.1	125.2	99.9	- 1.0	- .5	/ 5.8	/ 32.6	
Scranton	138.1	138.1	138.7	125.6	97.5	0	- .4	/ 10.0	/ 41.6	
East North Central:										
Chicago	135.8	137.3	136.6	124.9	98.2	- 1.1	- .6	/ 8.7	/ 38.3	
Cincinnati	133.4	135.8	136.1	126.9	96.5	- 1.8	- 2.0	/ 5.1	/ 38.2	
Cleveland	141.9	142.8	143.9	127.3	99.2	- .6	- 1.4	/ 11.5	/ 43.0	
Columbus, Ohio	128.7	129.4	131.7	119.6	93.4	- .5	- 2.3	/ 7.6	/ 37.8	
Detroit	132.8	134.0	134.5	124.7	97.0	- .9	- 1.3	/ 6.5	/ 36.9	
Indianapolis	132.7	134.3	135.4	127.1	98.2	- 1.2	- 2.0	/ 4.4	/ 35.1	
Milwaukee	135.7	135.5	135.4	121.0	95.9	/ .1	/ .2	/ 12.1	/ 41.5	
Peoria	139.9	140.6	141.3	130.7	99.0	- .5	- 1.0	/ 7.0	/ 41.3	
Springfield, Ill.	141.1	142.5	141.6	130.2	96.2	- 1.0	- .4	/ 8.4	/ 46.7	
West North Central:										
Cedar Rapids ^{4/}	138.8	139.0	138.0	121.2	95.9	- .1	/ .6	/ 14.5	/ 44.7	
Kansas City	129.7	130.9	132.6	120.7	92.4	- .9	- 2.2	/ 7.5	/ 40.4	
Minneapolis	130.4	129.7	132.3	123.3	99.0	/ .5	- 1.4	/ 5.8	/ 31.7	
Omaha	130.0	129.9	132.5	123.2	97.9	/ .1	- 1.9	/ 5.5	/ 32.8	
St. Louis	138.0	139.8	139.1	126.7	99.2	- 1.3	- .8	/ 8.9	/ 39.1	
St. Paul	128.3	127.9	130.5	120.8	98.6	/ .3	- 1.7	/ 6.2	/ 30.1	
Wichita ^{4/}	146.8	147.0	145.8	132.0	97.2	- .1	/ .7	/ 11.2	/ 51.0	

See footnotes at end of table.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Oct. 17	Sept. 12	Oct. 19	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Sept. 12	Oct. 19	Sept. 15	Jan. 14
	1944	1944	1943	1942	1941	1944	1943	1942	1941
	<u>2/</u>					to Oct. 17 1944	to Oct. 17 1944	to Oct. 17 1944	to Oct. 17 1944
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	136.9	137.8	140.3	125.9	94.3	- 0.7	- 2.4	/ 8.7	/ 45.2
Baltimore	142.0	140.7	147.0	131.2	97.9	/ .9	- 3.4	/ 8.2	/ 45.0
Charleston, S.C.	134.5	134.7	137.1	126.6	95.9	- .1	- 1.9	/ 6.2	/ 40.3
Jacksonville	146.1	148.1	146.8	134.2	98.8	- 1.4	- .5	/ 8.9	/ 47.9
Norfolk <u>5/</u>	140.8	141.1	148.3	131.9	95.8	- .2	- 5.1	/ 6.7	/ 47.0
Richmond	134.7	134.1	137.1	126.2	93.7	/ .4	- 1.8	/ 6.7	/ 43.8
Savannah	150.9	152.8	152.2	133.3	100.5	- 1.2	- .9	/ 13.2	/ 50.1
Washington, D.C.	134.7	135.2	140.2	128.1	97.7	- .4	- 3.9	/ 5.2	/ 37.9
Winston-Salem <u>4/</u>	137.6	137.4	139.4	119.8	93.7	/ .1	- 1.3	/ 14.9	/ 46.9
East South Central:									
Birmingham	139.5	140.3	141.8	125.3	96.0	- .6	- 1.6	/ 11.3	/ 45.3
Jackson <u>4/</u>	149.3	150.7	147.5	141.0	105.3	- .9	/ 1.2	/ 5.9	/ 41.8
Knoxville <u>4/</u>	156.3	157.9	157.5	134.2	97.1	- 1.0	- .8	/ 16.5	/ 61.0
Louisville	131.0	131.7	135.0	124.2	95.5	- .5	- 3.0	/ 5.5	/ 37.2
Memphis	144.9	146.5	144.4	129.7	94.2	- 1.1	/ .3	/ 11.7	/ 53.8
Mobile	145.4	146.6	147.5	133.9	97.9	- .8	- 1.4	/ 8.6	/ 48.5
West South Central:									
Dallas	131.9	132.9	137.1	123.7	92.6	- .8	- 3.8	/ 6.6	/ 42.4
Houston	136.6	137.5	138.4	130.8	102.6	- .7	- 1.3	/ 4.4	/ 33.1
Little Rock	135.4	137.4	133.4	129.2	95.6	- 1.5	/ 1.5	/ 4.8	/ 41.6
New Orleans	150.7	153.1	152.1	135.9	101.9	- 1.6	- .9	/ 10.9	/ 47.9
Mountain:									
Butte	133.1	133.1	136.5	124.6	98.7	0	- 2.5	/ 6.8	/ 34.9
Denver	136.2	136.4	135.3	126.8	94.8	- .1	/ .7	/ 7.4	/ 43.7
Salt Lake City	141.3	140.3	140.5	130.1	97.5	/ .7	/ .6	/ 8.6	/ 44.9
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	143.0	141.4	143.3	137.9	101.8	/ 1.1	- .2	/ 3.7	/ 40.5
Portland, Oreg.	146.5	144.8	144.6	141.2	101.7	/ 1.2	/ 1.3	/ 3.8	/ 44.1
San Francisco	145.2	143.3	142.4	133.5	96.6	/ 1.3	/ 2.0	/ 8.8	/ 45.8
Seattle	143.3	141.7	142.8	137.3	101.0	/ 1.1	/ .4	/ 4.4	/ 41.9

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

4/ June 1940 equals 100.

5/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

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Cap 1

For release

December 24, 1944

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

THE
JAN 1 1945

COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD - NOVEMBER 1944

The BLS index indicates average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. The items covered represented 70 percent of the expenditures of families who had incomes ranging from \$1250 to \$2000 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods and forced changes in housing and eating away from home.

It does not measure changes in total "living costs"--that is, in the total amount families spend for living. Income taxes and bond subscriptions are not included.

For a description of the methods used in computing the index, ask for "Description of the Cost of Living Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics." For an appraisal of the factors enumerated above, see the report of the President's Committee on the Cost of Living, November 17, 1944.

Average prices of living essentials showed little change between mid-October and mid-November, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins reported today. "The family food bill went up about 0.1 percent," she said, "and there were scattered increases in prices of clothing and housefurnishings as the demand for many lower-priced articles continued to exceed available supplies.

"The Bureau of Labor Statistics index of living costs of moderate-income city families rose 0.1 percent for the month and stood at 126.5 percent of the 1935-39 average, 1.9 percent above the level of one year ago.

"In the family food bill, seasonal increases in prices of eggs, green beans and apples, and higher prices for fresh and frozen fish offset the usual early winter price declines for oranges, lettuce, and spinach. Prices for onions, white potatoes and sweet potatoes decreased contraseasonally.

"While the supply of most staple foods was adequate, supplies of butter were again quite limited, and pork, cheese, canned fruit and salmon continued to be scarce. Larger quantities of better grades of beef were available in November than in October, and sugar was more readily obtainable.

"Average prices of clothing and housefurnishings advanced slightly (0.1 percent) over the month. Small increases in men's overalls and work shirts occurred in a number of cities. Disappearance of lower-priced lines raised the average cost of cotton housedresses, and supplies of cotton clothing in general continued to be extremely limited.

"Average gas prices in New York City advanced in November as the usual winter rate increase went into effect. Some coke prices advanced slightly while dealers stretched civilian supplies by adding higher-priced types of coke to less expensive qualities.

"Most of the miscellaneous goods and services remained stable. Rents were not surveyed in November."

Table 1

Report for November 15, 1944

- 3 -

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 1	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: November	124.2	137.3	133.5	108.0	107.9	126.9	117.7
1944: October 15	126.4	136.4	141.7	1/	109.8	141.3	122.7
November 15	126.5	136.5	141.8	1/	109.9	141.4	122.7

Table 1a

PERCENT OF CHANGE.

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
October 15, 1944 to Nov. 15, 1944	/ 0.1	/ 0.1	/ 0.1	1/	/ 0.1	/ 0.1	0
Nov. 15, 1943 to Nov. 15, 1944	/ 1.9	- 0.6	/ 6.2	/ 0.2	/ 1.9	/ 11.4	/ 4.2
Sept. 15, 1942 to Nov. 15, 1944	/ 7.4	/ 7.8	/ 12.7	/ 0.2	/ 3.5	/ 14.4	/ 10.1
May 15, 1942 to Nov. 15, 1944	/ 9.1	/ 12.3	/ 12.4	- 1.5	/ 4.8	/ 15.7	/ 10.6
Jan. 15, 1941 to Nov. 15, 1944	/ 25.5	/ 39.6	/ 40.8	/ 3.0	/ 9.0	/ 41.3	/ 20.4
Aug. 15, 1939 to Nov. 15, 1944	/ 28.3	/ 46.0	/ 41.4	/ 3.7	/ 12.7	/ 40.6	/ 22.2

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ rents not surveyed this month.

2/ Changes through Sept. 15, 1944.

Table 2

- 4 -

Report for November 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change between Oct. 15, 1944 and Nov. 15, 1944 by Groups*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+0.1 <u>1/</u>	+0.1 <u>2/</u>	+0.1 <u>3/</u>	+0.1 <u>4/</u>	+0.1 <u>3/</u>	0 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	+0.2	+0.5	0	+0.2	0	0
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	-0.3	-1.0	+0.1	0	+0.1	0
New York	+0.1	+0.1	0	+0.2	-0.1	0
Philadelphia	-0.1	-0.1	0	+0.1	0	0
Pittsburgh	-0.5	-1.4	0	0	+0.1	0
East North Central:						
Chicago	0	0	+0.1	0	0	0
Cincinnati	+0.3	+0.7	+0.1	0	0	0
Cleveland	+0.2	+0.5	+0.1	0	+0.1	0
Detroit	-0.2	-0.4	0	0	0	0
West North Central:						
Kansas City	+0.2	+0.5	+0.1	0	+0.1	0
Minneapolis	-0.1	-0.3	+0.1	0	0	0
St. Louis	+0.2	+0.4	0	0	0	+0.6
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	+0.7	+1.6	0	+0.1	0	0
Savannah	-0.1	-0.2	+0.1	0	0	0
Washington, D.C.	+0.5	+1.5	0	0	0	0
East South Central:						
Birmingham	+0.5	+1.3	0	0	0	0
West South Central:						
Houston	-0.6	-1.5	+0.1	0	0	0
Mountain:						
Denver	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	0	0	0
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	0	0	0
San Francisco	+0.4	+0.8	+0.2	0	0	0
Seattle	-0.1	-0.4	+0.1	0	+2.1	0

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed this month.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest 15th of the month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities

Table 1

Report for November 15, 1944

- 3 -

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 1	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: November	124.2	137.3	133.5	108.0	107.9	126.9	117.7
1944: October 15	126.4	136.4	141.7	<u>1/</u>	109.8	141.3	122.7
November 15	126.5	136.5	141.8	<u>1/</u>	109.9	141.4	122.7

Table 1a

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent 2/	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
October 15, 1944 to Nov. 15, 1944	/ 0.1	/ 0.1	/ 0.1	<u>1/</u>	/ 0.1	/ 0.1	0
Nov. 15, 1943 to Nov. 15, 1944	/ 1.9	- 0.6	/ 6.2	/ 0.2	/ 1.9	/11.4	/ 4.2
Sept. 15, 1942 to Nov. 15, 1944	/ 7.4	/ 7.8	/12.7	/ 0.2	/ 3.5	/14.4	/10.1
May 15, 1942 to Nov. 15, 1944	/ 9.1	/12.3	/12.4	- 1.5	/ 4.8	/15.7	/10.6
Jan. 15, 1941 to Nov. 15, 1944	/25.5	/39.6	/40.8	/ 3.0	/ 9.0	/41.3	/20.4
Aug. 15, 1939 to Nov. 15, 1944	/28.3	/46.0	/41.4	/ 3.7	/12.7	/40.6	/22.2

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed this month.

2/ Changes through Sept. 15, 1944.

Table 2

- 4 -

Report for November 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change between Oct. 15, 1944 and Nov. 15, 1944 by Groups*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+0.1 <u>1/</u>	+0.1 <u>2/</u>	+0.1 <u>3/</u>	+0.1 <u>4/</u>	+0.1 <u>3/</u>	0 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	+0.2	+0.5	0	+0.2	0	0
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	-0.3	-1.0	+0.1	0	+0.1	0
New York	+0.1	+0.1	0	+0.2	-0.1	0
Philadelphia	-0.1	-0.1	0	+0.1	0	0
Pittsburgh	-0.5	-1.4	0	0	+0.1	0
East North Central:						
Chicago	0	0	+0.1	0	0	0
Cincinnati	+0.3	+0.7	+0.1	0	0	0
Cleveland	+0.2	+0.5	+0.1	0	+0.1	0
Detroit	-0.2	-0.4	0	0	0	0
West North Central:						
Kansas City	+0.2	+0.5	+0.1	0	+0.1	0
Minneapolis	-0.1	-0.3	+0.1	0	0	0
St. Louis	+0.2	+0.4	0	0	0	+0.6
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	+0.7	+1.6	0	+0.1	0	0
Savannah	-0.1	-0.2	+0.1	0	0	0
Washington, D.C.	+0.5	+1.5	0	0	0	0
East South Central:						
Birmingham	+0.5	+1.3	0	0	0	0
West South Central:						
Houston	-0.6	-1.5	+0.1	0	0	0
Mountain:						
Denver	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	0	0	0
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	0	0	0
San Francisco	+0.4	+0.8	+0.2	0	0	0
Seattle	-0.1	-0.4	+0.1	0	+2.1	0

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed this month.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest 15th of the month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities

Table 3

- 5 -

Report for November 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and Other Specified Dates*

Region and City	Nov. 15, 1943 to Nov. 15, 1944	Aug. 15, 1939 to Nov. 15, 1944	Jan. 1, 1941 to Nov. 15, 1944	May 15, 1942 to Nov. 15, 1944	Sept. 15, 1942 to Nov. 15, 1944
Average: Large Cities	+1.9	+28.3	+25.5	+9.1	+7.4
New England:					
Boston	+1.7	+26.7	+24.1	+8.5	+5.9
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+0.6	+28.5	+24.2	+5.1	+5.1
New York	+1.9	+28.5	+25.9	+12.3	+9.4
Philadelphia	+1.5	+27.7	+25.9	+8.9	+6.8
Pittsburgh	+1.4	+28.9	+25.3	+9.5	+7.9
East North Central:					
Chicago	+2.4	+27.5	+24.3	+8.0	+7.2
Cincinnati	+1.9	+29.5	+26.5	+8.7	+6.8
Cleveland	+1.7	+30.4	+27.8	+9.8	+9.0
Detroit	+1.9	+28.9	+25.7	+6.9	+7.3
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+1.9	+26.0	+26.2	+8.9	+8.3
Minneapolis	+0.9	+23.2	+20.6	+6.0	+5.1
St. Louis	+1.6	+27.3	+23.7	+8.0	+7.1
South Atlantic:					
Baltimore	+3.1	+30.8	+28.2	+9.2	+7.8
Savannah	+1.9	+35.3	+32.5	+11.2	+10.1
Washington, D. C.	+1.6	+27.2	+25.5	+9.3	+7.1
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+2.4	+32.4	+28.3	+9.9	+9.8
West South Central:					
Houston	+0.6	+22.9	+21.4	+6.5	+4.9
Mountain:					
Denver	+2.3	+27.1	+25.3	+8.4	+6.1
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+1.6	+28.2	+25.7	+9.1	+5.8
San Francisco	+3.1	+32.3	+29.1	+11.7	+8.7
Seattle	+1.4	+30.0	+27.7	+7.6	+6.3

* These percents of change are based on indexes of cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 4

- 6 -

Report for November 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	126.5 <u>1/</u>	136.5 <u>2/</u>	141.8 <u>3/</u>	109.9 <u>4/</u>	141.4 <u>3/</u>	122.7 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	123.0	131.8	139.3	120.2	138.3	117.2
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	126.6	133.4	139.6	106.9	142.3	126.1
New York	127.2	137.4	147.6	114.0	133.9	125.6
Philadelphia	124.9	133.3	143.2	109.2	139.0	119.9
Pittsburgh	126.8	134.7	159.7	112.0	136.6	119.5
East North Central:						
Chicago	125.8	135.8	136.4	105.2	139.8	120.9
Cincinnati	126.0	134.4	141.7	106.2	145.4	123.5
Cleveland	130.4	142.6	142.4	115.3	139.8	122.1
Detroit	127.0	132.3	140.3	112.3	143.3	128.5
West North Central:						
Kansas City	124.2	130.3	140.4	110.2	128.2	125.0
Minneapolis	122.8	130.0	137.4	103.1	134.2	122.0
St. Louis	124.9	138.5	139.7	107.2	126.0	119.1
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	129.1	144.3	146.2	109.0	147.1	120.8
Savannah	134.4	150.6	142.6	112.0	140.2	129.4
Washington, D.C.	125.4	136.7	149.0	108.8	137.7	126.5
East South Central:						
Birmingham	130.4	141.3	139.9	104.5	138.9	124.4
West South Central:						
Houston	123.8	134.6	137.6	91.1	128.5	122.9
Mountain:						
Denver	125.3	136.4	133.5	104.1	146.6	122.0
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	128.8	143.3	139.8	92.5	138.4	125.2
San Francisco	131.4	146.3	140.1	92.6	138.7	130.5
Seattle	130.4	142.7	141.7	103.5	133.8	130.6

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed this month.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

Table 5. Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined ^{1/}
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity group	1944		1943	1942	1941	1939
	2/ Nov. 14	14 Oct. 17	Nov. 16	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All foods	136.5	136.4	137.3	126.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	108.6	108.6	108.3	105.4	94.9	93.4
Meats	129.7	129.4	130.4	130.6	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	118.2	118.2	119.0	126.0	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.2	112.2	113.3	124.0	86.1	88.0
Lamb	134.5	134.7	133.5	133.7	98.7	98.8
Chickens	150.4	149.9	146.5	133.7	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	210.3	205.8	223.6	168.2	118.7	99.6
Dairy Products	133.6	133.6 ^{3/}	133.6	127.7	105.1	93.1
Eggs	186.8	179.0	190.8	155.2	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	160.7	162.9	162.6	129.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	167.6	170.4	170.1	130.3	93.4	92.8
Canned	129.6	129.7	129.9	123.8	91.4	91.6
Dried	166.5	165.7	162.5	143.4	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.3	124.3	124.8	123.8	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	123.2	123.1	125.0	120.7	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	126.5	126.4	126.6	127.0	95.3	95.6

1/ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

Table 5-A. Percent Change

Commodity group	Oct. 17 1944 to Nov. 14 1944	Nov. 16 1943 to Nov. 14 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Nov. 14 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Nov. 14 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Nov. 14 1944
All foods	+ 0.1	- 0.6	+ 7.8	+39.6	+46.0
Cereals and bakery products	0	+ .3	+ 3.0	+14.4	+16.3
Meats	+ .2	- .5	- .7	+28.3	+35.5
Beef and veal	0	- .7	- 6.2	+ 8.0	+18.7
Pork	0	- 1.0	- 9.5	+30.3	+27.5
Lamb	- .1	+ .7	+ .6	+36.3	+36.1
Chickens	+ .3	+ 2.7	+12.5	+54.7	+59.0
Fish, fresh and canned	+ 2.2	- 5.9	+25.0	+77.2	+111.1
Dairy Products	0	0	+ 4.6	+27.1	+43.5
Eggs	+ 4.4	- 2.1	+20.4	+91.8	+106.0
Fruits and vegetables	- 1.4	- 1.2	+23.9	+72.2	+73.9
Fresh	- 1.6	- 1.5	+28.6	+79.4	+80.6
Canned	- .1	- .2	+ 4.7	+41.8	+41.5
Dried	+ .5	+ 2.5	+16.1	+67.2	+84.4
Beverages	0	- .4	+ .4	+36.7	+31.0
Fats and oils	+ .1	- 1.4	+ 2.1	+53.4	+45.8
Sugar and sweets	+ .1	- .1	- .4	+32.7	+32.3

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

Region and City	Percent Change - Oct. 17, 1944 to Nov. 14, 1944								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweetens
United States	+0.1	0.0	+0.2	0.0	+4.4	-1.4	0.0	+0.1	+0.1
New England:									
Boston	+ .5	+ .1	+ .6	0	+4.9	+ .1	- .1	+ .1	- .1
Bridgeport	- .7	- .1	- .4	0	+3.1	-3.4	+ .1	+ .2	- .4
Fall River	+ .3	0	0	- .1	+4.5	- .5	0	- .2	0
Manchester	+ .1	- .1	+ .2	+ .1	+2.8	- .6	0	- .2	- .3
New Haven	- .4	+ .2	+ .5	- .1	+3.3	-3.6	0	+ .4	+ .1
Portland, Me.	- .4	+ .1	- .2	- .1	+4.0	-3.8	0	- .2	0
Providence	+ .7	0	+1.7	0	+2.4	+ .2	- .2	+ .1	+ .2
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	-1.0	+ .1	+ .1	+ .4	+3.5	-6.0	0	+ .7	0
Newark	+ .2	0	+ .8	+ .2	+2.3	-1.0	- .1	+ .2	- .1
New York	+ .1	- .3	+ .5	0	+2.7	- .8	- .1	- .1	+ .5
Philadelphia	- .1	+ .4	+ .6	0	+2.5	-2.4	0	- .1	+ .1
Pittsburgh	-1.4	- .2	- .6	- .2	+3.8	-6.1	- .4	0	0
Rochester	- .1	0	0	+ .1	+2.9	-2.0	0	+ .3	+ .1
Scranton	-1.3	- .7	0	- .1	+3.8	-6.3	+ .1	- .1	0
East North Central:									
Chicago	0	+ .2	- .2	0	+4.3	- .9	+ .1	+ .1	+ .2
Cincinnati	+ .7	+ .2	- .3	0	+9.1	+ .8	+ .2	+ .2	+ .1
Cleveland	+ .5	0	- .1	0	+3.1	+ .9	0	0	0
Columbus, O.	+ .2	+ .1	0	0	+6.4	-2.4	- .1	+ .8	- .8
Detroit	- .4	- .1	- .2	- .1	+3.9	-2.6	0	+ .2	+ .2
Indianapolis	+ .3	+ .1	+ .2	0	+8.2	-2.0	+ .2	+ .1	- .2
Milwaukee	- .4	- .1	+ .1	- .3	+7.3	-3.7	+ .1	0	0
Peoria	+ .2	+ .3	- .3	+ .1	+12.9	-1.0	0	+ .5	-5.4
Springfield, Ill.	+ .6	+ .3	- .7	0	+17.3	- .7	- .1	+ .5	- .2
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	+ .6	0	+ .1	0	+15.5	-2.4	0	+ .3	- .1
Kansas City	+ .5	+ .4	+ .2	- .1	+9.5	-1.7	- .1	- .1	0
Minneapolis	- .3	- .1	0	0	+7.6	-4.4	0	+ .4	- .2
Omaha	+ .2	+ .1	- .2	0	+5.5	- .4	0	+ .1	+ .6
St. Louis	+ .4	+ .2	- .1	- .1	+8.3	- .9	- .2	+ .2	+ .1
St. Paul	0	+ .2	+ .3	+ .1	+8.9	-4.5	0	+ .2	+ .8
Wichita	+ .3	- .1	- .1	0	+7.8	-1.3	- .4	- .1	- .4

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods (Cont'd)

Region and City	Percent Change - Oct. 17, 1944 to Nov. 14, 1944								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	+0.7	0.0	+0.2	-0.4	+4.2	+2.1	0.0	-0.1	+0.2
Baltimore	+1.6	+ .2	+ .8	- .2	+4.9	+3.7	- .1	- .1	0
Charleston, S.C.	+ .1	- .2	- .5	- .2	+6.6	- .6	0	+ .4	0
Jacksonville	- .1	- .3	- .1	0	+2.2	-1.2	0	+ .1	0
Norfolk	+ .9	+ .2	+ .8	0	+4.8	+1.2	+ .1	0	0
Richmond	+ .7	+ .3	+1.2	+ .1	+3.8	- .6	- .1	+ .4	+ .9
Savannah	- .2	- .4	-1.3	0	+5.1	- .4	- .2	+ .1	+ .4
Washington, D.C.	+1.5	+ .1	+3.5	- .3	+4.1	+ .4	0	+ .6	- .2
Winston-Salem	+ .3	- .1	+ .6	+ .2	+1.9	- .2	+ .1	+ .2	0
East South Central:									
Birmingham	+1.3	+ .1	+ .4	- .1	+13.9	-2.6	0	+ .7	- .1
Jackson	+ .6	+1.4	- .3	0	+3.5	+1.0	+ .1	+ .3	0
Knoxville	+ .3	+ .1	0	- .1	+10.2	-1.9	0	- .3	0
Louisville	0	0	- .2	0	+7.2	-3.0	0	+ .2	0
Memphis	0	+ .1	+ .2	- .1	+5.6	-2.0	- .2	+ .4	- .8
Mobile	- .3	- .2	- .1	0	+3.2	-2.1	- .4	0	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	+ .6	- .1	- .1	0	+6.4	+ .8	+ .3	- .1	+2.4
Houston	-1.5	- .1	- .1	- .1	+4.0	-7.5	0	0	+ .1
Little Rock	+ .7	0	- .2	0	+7.4	+1.2	- .4	+ .2	+ .2
New Orleans	- .7	0	- .4	- .2	+7.7	-4.0	0	+ .1	0
Mountain:									
Butte	+ .3	0	- .1	0	+3.6	+ .2	0	- .1	0
Denver	+ .1	-3.9	+ .5	0	+4.6	+ .9	0	- .1	+ .1
Salt Lake City	- .1	- .1	- .2	0	+10.2	-3.6	- .1	+ .7	- .2
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	+ .2	0	+ .6	0	+2.9	- .6	+ .2	+ .5	- .2
Portland, Oreg.	+ .2	- .1	- .1	- .1	+7.6	-1.8	- .1	0	+ .1
San Francisco	+ .8	+ .1	0	- .2	+2.8	+1.9	+ .3	0	- .1
Seattle	- .4	+ .1	- .2	- .1	+4.0	-3.6	+ .5	- .1	+ .5

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity		Nov. 14 1944 Average Prices Cents	Percent Change				
			Oct. 17 1944 to Nov. 14 1944	Nov. 16 1943 to Nov. 14 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Nov. 14 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Nov. 14 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Nov. 14 1944
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.2	+0.2	+ 1.9	+18.2	+55.1	+79.3
Macaroni	lb.	15.8	+ .6	+ 1.3	+12.1	+14.5	+12.9
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.2	0	- .4	- 3.3	- 1.3	- 4.1
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.5	0	- 1.5	- 7.1	- 8.5	- 7.1
Corn meal	lb.	6.4	0	+ 8.5	+28.0	+52.4	+60.0
*Rice	"	12.8	0	0	+ 2.4	+62.0	+70.7
Rollod oats	"	10.2	+1.0	+17.2	+17.2	+43.7	+43.7
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	12.3	+ .8	+ 7.9	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	0	- 1.1	+ 1.1	+12.8	+12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.6	0	- 2.0	+ 1.1	+10.3	+ 9.1
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	- 2.0	+ 2.1	+10.0	+ 7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	28.2	0	- .7	+ 4.4	+12.4	<u>2/</u>
Soda crackers	"	18.9	0	+ 1.1	+13.9	+26.0	+27.7
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	40.6	- .2	- 3.1	- 8.1	+ 5.2	+11.5
Rib roast	"	33.0	0	- 2.4	- 4.9	+ 4.8	+14.2
Chuck roast	"	28.3	- .4	- 2.4	- 5.7	+12.3	+25.8
*Stew meat	"	30.6	0	- 2.2	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver	"	37.3	0	+ 1.1	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Hamburger	"	27.5	0	- 3.5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	44.6	0	- 2.8	-18.8	- 1.3	+ 4.9
*Roast, boned and rolled	"	36.0	+ .3	- .6	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:							
Chops	"	37.3	+ .3	- 1.1	-13.5	+28.2	+20.7
Bacon, sliced	"	40.8	- .2	- 1.7	- .2	+35.5	+34.2
Ham, sliced	"	50.1	+ .2	- 3.1	-15.9	+11.1	+ 8.0
Ham, whole	"	35.2	0	- 1.7	- 8.1	+34.4	+28.5
Salt pork	"	22.1	- .9	- 3.1	- 7.1	+32.3	+43.5
*Liver	"	22.0	0	- .9	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage	"	38.4	- .3	- .3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologna, big	"	34.0	- .6	- 1.4	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:							
Leg	"	39.9	0	- .7	+ 5.3	+43.5	+44.6
Rib chops	"	45.3	+ .2	0	- 3.8	+29.4	+23.4

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Percent Change					
	Nov. 14	Oct. 17	Nov. 16	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1944	1944 to	1943 to	1942 to	1941 to	1939 to
	Average	Nov. 14	Nov. 14	Nov. 14	Nov. 14	Nov. 14
	Prices	1944	1944	1944	1944	1944
	Cents					
MEATS: (Continued)						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens 2/ lb.	45.0	+ 0.3	+ 2.7	+12.5	+54.7	+59.0
Fish:						
Fish (fresh, frozen) 2/ "	1/	+ 2.5	- 7.0	+27.8	+82.3	+115.2
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	22.9	- .4	- 2.6	+ 5.0	+45.9	+78.9
*Salmon, red "	41.5	+ 1.5	+ .7	+ 2.2	+57.2	+79.7
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter lb.	49.8	- .2	- 1.0	- 1.6	+31.1	+62.2
Cheese "	36.2	+ .3	+ .8	+ 5.5	+34.1	+46.6
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	0	+ 4.0	+20.0	+30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	+ .7	+ 7.4	+21.8	+31.8
Milk, evaporated 1 1/2 oz. can	10.0	0	0	+12.4	+40.8	+49.3
EGGS:						
Eggs, fresh 2/ doz.	66.3	+ 4.4	- 2.1	+20.4	+91.8	+106.0
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits and vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples lb.	10.3	+ 5.1	+ 1.0	+66.1	+98.1	+134.1
Bananas "	11.2	+ .9	- 3.2	+ 8.7	+69.7	+83.6
Oranges doz.	46.0	- 7.3	+ .7	+17.6	+68.5	+46.0
*Grapefruit each	3.6	- 6.5	- 8.5	- 8.5	3/	3/
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green lb.	20.2	+37.4	+ 9.2	+74.1	+44.3	+180.6
Cabbage "	4.7	0	+ 4.4	+20.5	+38.2	+20.5
Carrots bunch	9.0	+ 1.1	- 8.2	+30.4	+50.0	+95.7
Lettuce head	10.9	-10.7	-16.2	-12.8	+29.8	+29.8
Onions lb.	4.7	- 2.1	-33.8	+ 4.4	+30.6	+30.6
Potatoes 15 lb.	66.5	- .9	+ 8.0	+37.7	+127.7	+93.3
Spinach lb.	10.8	- 5.3	+12.5	+ .9	+47.9	+38.5
Sweetpotatoes "	6.8	- 4.2	-23.6	+ 6.2	+36.0	+23.6
*Beets bunch	7.9	+ 3.9	- 9.2	4/	4/	4/
Canned fruits and vegetables:						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches #2 1/2 can	27.7	- .4	+ 4.9	+15.4	+67.9	+62.0
Pineapple "	27.2	- 1.1	- 2.5	- 3.9	+30.1	+29.5
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	0	0	+16.1	3/	3/

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity		Nov. 14 1944 Average Prices Cents	Percent Change				
			Oct. 17 1944 to Nov. 14 1944	Nov. 16 1943 to Nov. 14 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Nov. 14 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Nov. 14 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Nov. 14 1944
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green	#2 can	13.1	0.0	-9.0	- 4.4	✓31.0	✓31.0
Corn	"	14.7	✓.7	✓3.5	✓10.5	✓37.4	✓41.3
Peas	"	13.3	0	-8.3	-8.9	✓.8	- 2.2
Tomatoes	"	11.9	- .8	-3.3	✓ 2.6	✓41.7	✓38.4
*Soup, vegetable 11oz. can		13.4	0	✓3.9	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits & vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes	lb.	16.8	-1.2	✓.6	✓13.5	✓75.0	✓90.9
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans	lb.	11.1	✓1.8	✓5.7	✓22.0	✓70.8	✓91.4
*Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle	oz.	3.7	0	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee	lb.	30.3	0	✓1.7	✓ 5.6	✓46.4	✓35.9
Tea	$\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	24.0	✓.4	✓1.7	✓ 7.1	✓36.4	✓39.5
*Cocoa	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	10.4	0	✓9.5	✓ 2.0	✓14.3	✓20.9
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard	lb.	18.8	✓.5	- .5	✓ 8.7	✓102.2	✓89.9
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons	lb.	20.2	0	✓1.0	✓ 3.6	✓78.8	✓72.6
In other containers	"	24.9	✓.4	0	✓ 2.0	✓36.1	✓23.3
Salad dressing	pt.	25.8	✓.4	✓1.6	✓ 2.4	✓28.4	<u>2/</u>
Oleomargarine	lb.	24.1	0	✓.4	✓ 7.6	✓54.5	✓46.1
Peanut butter	"	28.5	✓.4	-8.1	✓ 2.5	✓59.2	✓59.2
*Oil, cooking or salad	pt.	30.7	0	0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar	lb.	6.7	0	-1.5	- 2.9	✓31.4	✓28.8
Corn sirup	24 oz.	15.8	0	- .6	✓ 4.6	✓16.2	✓15.3
*Molasses	18 oz.	15.9	✓1.3	0	✓ 6.7	✓18.7	✓16.9
*Apple butter	16 oz.	13.6	- .7	✓3.0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.
1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.
2/ Not available.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Nov. 14/ 1944	Oct. 17/ 1944	Nov. 16/ 1943	Sept. 15/ 1942	Jan. 14/ 1941	Oct. 17/ 1944	Nov. 16/ 1943	Sept. 15/ 1942	Jan. 14/ 1941
	<u>2/</u>					to Nov. 14/ 1944	to Nov. 14/ 1944	to Nov. 14/ 1944	to Nov. 14/ 1944
United States	136.5	136.4	137.3	126.6	97.8	+ 0.1	- 0.6	+ 7.8	+39.6
New England:									
Boston	131.8	131.1	131.4	124.4	95.2	+ .5	+ .3	+ 5.9	+38.4
Bridgeport	134.5	135.4	136.7	127.1	96.5	- .7	- 1.6	+ 5.8	+39.4
Fall River	131.6	131.2	133.2	125.7	97.5	+ .3	- 1.2	+ 4.7	+35.0
Manchester	133.6	133.4	133.8	126.8	96.6	+ .1	- .1	+ 5.4	+38.3
New Haven	135.2	135.7	137.1	126.2	95.7	- .4	- 1.4	+ 7.1	+41.3
Portland, Maine	133.2	133.8	134.5	125.8	95.3	- .4	- 1.0	+ 5.9	+39.8
Providence	135.6	134.6	136.2	126.3	96.3	+ .7	- .4	+ 7.4	+40.8
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	133.4	134.7	137.8	127.6	100.2	- 1.0	- 3.2	+ 4.5	+33.1
Newark	139.1	138.8	139.5	128.0	98.8	+ .2	- .3	+ 8.7	+40.8
New York	137.4	137.2	139.3	125.2	99.5	+ .1	- 1.4	+ 9.7	+38.1
Philadelphia	133.3	133.5	135.4	123.9	95.0	- .1	- 1.6	+ 7.6	+40.3
Pittsburgh	134.7	136.6	138.0	125.9	98.0	- 1.4	- 2.4	+ 7.0	+37.4
Rochester	132.4	132.5	132.4	125.2	99.9	- .1	0	+ 5.8	+32.5
Scranton	136.3	138.1	137.0	125.6	97.5	- 1.3	- .5	+ 8.5	+39.8
East North Central:									
Chicago	135.8	135.8	133.9	124.9	98.2	0	+ 1.4	+ 8.7	+38.3
Cincinnati	134.4	133.4	134.9	126.9	96.5	+ .7	- .4	+ 5.9	+39.3
Cleveland	142.6	141.9	143.1	127.3	99.2	+ .5	- .3	+12.0	+43.8
Columbus, Ohio	129.0	128.7	131.7	119.6	93.4	+ .2	- 2.1	+ 7.9	+38.1
Detroit	132.3	132.8	133.3	124.7	97.0	- .4	- .8	+ 6.1	+36.4
Indianapolis	133.1	132.7	134.0	127.1	98.2	+ .3	- .7	+ 4.7	+35.5
Milwaukee	135.2	135.7	134.0	121.0	95.9	- .4	+ .9	+11.7	+41.0
Peoria	140.2	139.9	141.5	130.7	99.0	+ .2	- .9	+ 7.3	+41.6
Springfield, Ill.	141.9	141.1	140.9	130.2	96.2	+ .6	+ .7	+ 9.0	+47.5
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids <u>4/</u>	139.6	138.8	139.0	121.2	95.9	+ .6	+ .4	+15.2	+45.6
Kansas City	130.3	129.7	132.7	120.7	92.4	+ .5	- 1.8	+ 8.0	+41.0
Minneapolis	130.0	130.4	132.2	123.3	99.0	- .3	- 1.7	+ 5.4	+31.3
Omaha	130.3	130.0	131.8	123.2	97.9	+ .2	- 1.1	+ 5.8	+33.1
St. Louis	138.5	138.0	138.7	126.7	99.2	+ .4	- .1	+ 9.3	+39.6
St. Paul	128.3	128.3	131.3	120.8	98.6	0	- 2.3	+ 6.2	+30.1
Wichita <u>4/</u>	147.2	146.8	146.7	132.0	97.2	+ .3	+ .3	+11.5	+51.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Nov. 14, 1944	Oct. 17, 1944	Nov. 16, 1943	Sept. 15, 1942	Jan. 14, 1941	Oct. 17, 1944 to Nov. 14, 1944	Nov. 16, 1943 to Nov. 14, 1944	Sept. 15, 1942 to Nov. 14, 1944	Jan. 14, 1941 to Nov. 14, 1944
	<u>2/</u>								
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	137.9	136.9	137.5	125.9	94.3	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	+ 9.5	+46.2
Baltimore	144.3	142.0	142.4	131.2	97.9	+ 1.6	+ 1.3	+10.0	+47.4
Charleston, S.C.	134.7	134.5	134.8	126.6	95.9	+ .1	- .1	+ 6.4	+40.5
Jacksonville	145.9	146.1	144.9	134.2	98.8	- .1	+ .7	+ 8.7	+47.7
Norfolk <u>3/</u>	142.0	140.8	144.8	131.9	95.8	+ .9	- 1.9	+ 7.7	+48.2
Richmond	135.7	134.7	136.5	126.2	93.7	+ .7	- .6	+ 7.5	+44.8
Savannah	150.6	150.9	150.4	133.3	100.5	- .2	+ .1	+13.0	+49.9
Washington, D.C.	136.7	134.7	137.5	128.1	97.7	+ 1.5	- .6	+ 6.7	+39.9
Winston-Salem <u>4/</u>	138.0	137.6	138.2	119.8	93.7	+ .3	- .1	+15.2	+47.3
East North Central:									
Birmingham	141.3	139.5	141.7	125.3	96.0	+ 1.3	- .3	+12.8	+47.2
Jackson <u>4/</u>	150.2	149.3	145.8	141.0	105.3	+ .6	+ 3.0	+ 6.5	+42.6
Knoxville <u>4/</u>	156.8	156.3	158.2	134.2	97.1	+ .3	- .9	+16.8	+61.5
Louisville	131.0	131.0	134.2	124.2	95.5	0	- 2.4	+ 5.5	+37.2
Memphis	144.9	144.9	143.9	127.7	94.2	0	+ .7	+11.7	+53.8
Mobile	145.0	145.4	145.4	133.9	97.9	- .3	- .3	+ 8.3	+48.1
West South Central:									
Dallas	132.7	131.9	136.0	123.7	92.6	+ .6	- 2.4	+ 7.3	+43.3
Houston	134.6	136.6	137.3	130.8	102.6	- 1.5	- 2.0	+ 2.9	+31.2
Little Rock	136.3	135.4	134.5	129.2	95.6	+ .7	+ 1.3	+ 5.5	+42.6
New Orleans	149.7	150.7	149.9	135.9	101.9	- .7	- .1	+10.2	+46.9
Mountain:									
Butte	133.5	133.1	136.9	124.6	98.7	+ .3	- 2.5	+ 7.1	+35.3
Denver	136.4	136.2	136.8	126.8	94.8	+ .1	- .3	+ 7.6	+43.9
Salt Lake City	141.1	141.3	142.6	130.1	97.5	- .1	- 1.1	+ 8.5	+44.7
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	143.3	143.0	144.4	137.9	101.8	+ .2	- .8	+ 3.9	+40.8
Portland, Ore.	146.8	146.5	145.0	141.2	101.7	+ .2	+ 1.2	+ 4.0	+44.3
San Francisco	146.3	145.2	143.7	133.5	99.6	+ .8	+ 1.8	+ 9.6	+46.9
Seattle	142.7	143.3	143.6	137.3	101.0	- .4	- .6	+ 3.9	+41.3

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States, with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

4/ June 1940 equals 100.

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Cap 1

For release
in P.M. papers
January 30, 1945

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

FEB 1 3 1945

COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD - DECEMBER 1944

The BLS index indicates average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. The items covered represented 70 percent of the expenditures of families who had incomes ranging from \$1250 to \$2000 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods and forced changes in housing and eating away from home.

It does not measure changes in total "living costs"---that is, in the total amount families spend for living. Income taxes and bond subscriptions are not included.

For a description of the methods used in computing the index, ask for "Description of the Cost of Living Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics." For an appraisal of the factors enumerated above, see the report of the President's Committee on the Cost of Living, November 17, 1944.

Prices of living essentials rose three-tenths of one percent between mid-November and mid-December, Secretary of Labor Perkins reported today. "Seasonal advances in the prices of fresh fruits and vegetables and continued scarcities of lower-priced textile goods were mainly responsible for the increase," she said.

"On December 15, the Bureau of Labor Statistics index of the living costs of moderate-income families stood at 127.0 percent of the 1935-39 average and 2.1 percent above the December 1943 level.

"The family food bill advanced 0.7 percent over the month as seasonal price increases were reported for most fresh fruits and vegetables. Prices of cabbage, onions, and sweetpotatoes advanced more than is usual at this season, while lettuce prices, which generally decline slightly between November and December, rose almost 15 percent over the month because of the short crop. Small advances over the month were reported in the prices of meats, fish, poultry, and eggs, with supplies of meats and poultry in retail stores very limited.

"During the course of the year food costs as a whole remained relatively stable, increasing only 0.2 percent from their December 1943 level.

"Clothing prices rose again by 0.5 percent on the average between mid-November and mid-December. Scattered advances occurred in cotton clothing prices, particularly among work garments. Yard goods and inexpensive clothing of all kinds was increasingly hard to get. In a few cities price declines were reported on men's lower quality shirts and shorts as stores received small supplies produced under the WPB-OPA 'low cost clothing' program.

"In general, textile housefurnishings and all types of furniture were also in short supply. Substitutions of higher price lines and the continued reintroduction of spring-filled furniture at prices above those at which it was last marketed contributed largely to the 0.9 percent increase over the month in the average cost of housefurnishings.

"The cost of miscellaneous goods and services rose 0.2 percent due to increased costs for cigarettes and pipe tobacco, as more retailers limited customers to one pack. Scattered advances occurred in charges for newspapers, for medical care, and for domestic, barber and beauty shop services.

"Utility bills were substantially reduced in December in three cities. Rebates on December bills were allowed consumers of electricity in Atlanta and of gas in Detroit. In Cleveland, the Ohio Public Utilities Commission ordered a retroactive rate reduction.

"Slight further increases were reported in rental costs in some cities, with largest advances in Jacksonville (0.6 percent from June to December 1944), Savannah (0.4 percent from June to December 1944), and Mobile (0.3 percent from September to December 1944). The 0.1 percent increase reported for the average of large cities in December 1944 summarizes changes since September 15 in 6 cities and since June 15 in 14 cities."

NOTE: Because of the comparative stability of rents under OPA control, rents are now reported quarterly in some cities and semiannually in others. Changes which occur between successive rent surveys are shown in the city rent indexes at the date of the latest survey; changes for intervening dates are not estimated in the city rent index. The rent index for the average of large cities is computed quarterly on the basis of rent changes in the cities actually surveyed (in December, 20), and on the assumption that no change has occurred in the other cities since they were surveyed three months earlier.

Table 1.

Report for December 15, 1944

- 3 -

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1943: December 15	124.4	137.1	134.6	108.1	109.4	127.9	118.1
1944: October 15	126.5 R	136.4	141.9 R	1/	109.8	141.4 R	122.8 R
November 15	126.6 R	136.5	142.1 R	1/	109.9	141.7 R	122.9 R
December 15	127.0	137.4	142.8	108.3	109.4	143.0	123.1

Table 1a.

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Nov. 15, 1944 to December 15, 1944	+0.3	+0.7	+0.5	2/ +0.1	-0.5	+0.9	+0.2
Dec. 15, 1943 to December 15, 1944	+2.1	+0.2	+6.1	+0.2	0	+11.8	+4.2
Sept. 15, 1942 to December 15, 1944	+7.8	+8.5	+13.5	+0.3	+3.0	+15.7	+10.5
May 15, 1942 to December 15, 1944	+9.5	+13.0	+13.2	-1.5	+4.3	+17.0	+11.0
Jan. 15, 1941 to December 15, 1944	+26.0	+40.5	+41.8	+3.1	+8.5	+42.9	+20.8
August 15, 1939 to December 15, 1944	+28.8	+47.0	+42.4	+3.8	+12.2	+42.1	+22.6

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

R Revised

1/ Rentals were not reported in these months.

2/ Based on rents in 20 large cities in December 1944 and assuming no change in cities not surveyed in December. See note at end of text.

Table 2.

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Report for Dec. 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change Between Nov. 15, 1944 and Dec. 15, 1944 by Groups*

Area and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+0.3	+0.7 <u>1/</u>	+0.5	+0.1 <u>2/3/</u>	-0.5	+0.9	+0.2
New England:							
Boston	+0.4	+0.7	+0.2	+0.1 <u>4/</u>	0	+0.8	0
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	+0.3	+0.5	+0.5	+0.2 <u>4/</u>	0	+0.1	0
New York	+0.5	+0.9	+0.4	0 <u>3/</u>	0	+1.7	+0.1
Philadelphia	+0.7	+1.3	+0.3	5/ <u>5/</u>	0	+1.4	+0.2
Pittsburgh	+0.9	+1.0	+2.6	+0.2 <u>4/</u>	0	+1.3	0
East North Central:							
Chicago	+0.3	+0.5	+0.7	+0.1 <u>4/</u>	0	+0.6	+0.2
Cincinnati	+0.4	+0.2	+1.1	+0.2 <u>4/</u>	0	+0.1	+0.6
Cleveland	-1.0	-1.4	+0.6	+0.1 <u>3/</u>	-9.7	+1.5	+0.1
Detroit	+0.3	+0.3	+0.4	+0.1 <u>3/</u>	-0.4	+1.7	+0.6
West North Central:							
Kansas City	+0.5	+0.5	+1.2	+0.3 <u>4/</u>	0	+1.4	+0.2
Minneapolis	+0.2	+0.3	+0.3	5/ <u>5/</u>	0	+0.4	+0.2
St. Louis	+0.3	+0.7	0	5/ <u>5/</u>	0	+0.1	+0.1
South Atlantic:							
Baltimore	0	-0.3	+0.1	5/ <u>5/</u>	-0.1	+0.4	+0.2
Savannah	+0.1	-0.1	+0.1	+0.4 <u>4/</u>	0	+1.1	+0.1
Washington, D. C.	+0.2	+0.3	+0.3	0 <u>4/</u>	0	+0.5	+0.2
East South Central:							
Birmingham	+0.4	+0.7	+0.3	5/ <u>5/</u>	0	+1.2	+0.2
West South Central:							
Houston	+0.6	+1.0	+0.5	5/ <u>5/</u>	0	+2.3	+0.2
Mountain:							
Denver	+0.6	+1.1	+0.7	+0.2 <u>4/</u>	+0.1	+1.3	+0.1
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	+0.2	+0.4	0	+0.2 <u>4/</u>	0	-0.3	0
San Francisco	+0.8	+1.9	+0.6	5/ <u>5/</u>	0	+0.1	+0.1
Seattle	+0.6	+0.8	-0.1	5/ <u>5/</u>	0	+5.4	+0.5

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the 15th of the month.

2/ Based on rents in 20 large cities surveyed in December and assuming no change in rents in cities not surveyed in December. See note at end of text.

3/ Change from September 15, 1944.

4/ Change from June 15, 1944.

5/ Rentals not reported in December. See note at end of text.

Table 3

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Report for Dec. 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since Aug. 15, 1939, Jan. 1, 1941 and other specified Dates*

Area and City	Dec. 15, 1943 to Dec. 15, 1944	Aug. 15, 1939 to Dec. 15, 1944	Jan. 1, 1941 to Dec. 15, 1944	May 15, 1942 to Dec. 15, 1944	Sept. 15, 1942 to Dec. 15, 1944
Average: Large Cities	+2.1	+28.8	+26.0	+9.5	+7.8
New England:					
Boston	+2.0	+27.2	+24.6	+8.9	+6.3
Manchester	+2.3	+32.2	+29.0	+9.2	+7.6
Portland, Me.	+1.7	+29.4	+27.5	+8.5	+6.4
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+0.8	+29.0	+24.7	+5.5	+5.5
New York	+2.2	+29.2	+26.6	+12.9	+10.0
Philadelphia	+1.9	+28.7	+26.9	+9.8	+7.7
Pittsburgh	+2.9	+30.1	+26.5	+10.5	+8.9
Scranton	+2.9	+30.2	+26.0	+10.1	+8.5
East North Central:					
Chicago	+2.6	+28.0	+24.8	+8.4	+7.7
Cincinnati	+2.1	+30.3	+27.3	+9.4	+7.5
Cleveland	+0.6	+29.1	+26.6	+8.7	+7.9
Detroit	+1.7	+29.4	+26.2	+7.3	+7.7
Indianapolis	+2.6	+30.6	+25.5	+7.7	+7.5
Milwaukee	+2.3	+28.1	+25.3	+8.6	+7.8
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+2.0	+26.6	+26.8	+9.4	+8.8
Minneapolis	+0.9	+23.6	+21.0	+6.3	+5.5
St. Louis	+1.6	+27.7	+24.1	+8.4	+7.5
South Atlantic:					
Atlanta	+3.5	+31.3	+29.0	+12.2	+9.7
Baltimore	+2.6	+30.9	+28.3	+9.3	+7.8
Jacksonville	+3.1	+36.4	+31.9	+12.8	+10.6
Norfolk	+1.1	+34.6	+30.8	+9.9	+7.8
Richmond	+1.9	+26.9	+24.9	+8.4	+6.1
Savannah	+2.1	+35.5	+32.7	+11.3	+10.2
Washington, D.C.	+1.9	+27.6	+25.9	+9.7	+7.4
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+2.7	+33.0	+28.9	+10.4	+10.3
Memphis	+2.0	+33.1	+30.5	+11.3	+9.1
Mobile	+1.9	+30.7	+28.4	+8.6	+6.6
West South Central:					
Houston	+1.1	+23.8	+22.3	+7.3	+5.7
New Orleans	+1.3	+31.4	+28.8	+10.8	+7.7
Mountain:					
Denver	+2.1	+27.9	+26.1	+9.1	+7.6
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+2.0	+28.5	+26.0	+9.3	+6.1
Portland, Oreg.	+2.9	+33.2	+30.7	+9.5	+6.7
San Francisco	+4.1	+33.6	+30.4	+12.8	+9.8
Seattle	+1.9	+30.7	+28.4	+8.2	+6.8

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change Between Sept. 15, 1944 & Dec. 15, 1944 by Groups*

Area and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	+0.4	+0.3 <u>1/</u>	+1.0	+0.1 <u>2/</u>	-0.4	+1.6	+0.6
New England:							
Boston	+0.2	-0.2	+0.5	+0.1 <u>3/</u>	+0.2	+3.9	+0.1
Manchester	+0.2	-0.4	+1.8	<u>4/</u>	0	+0.8	+0.6
Portland, Maine	+0.3	-0.4	+1.0	<u>4/</u>	+0.3	+1.7	+1.3
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo	0	-0.5	+1.1	+0.2 <u>3/</u>	0	+0.6	0
New York	+0.6	+1.0	+0.8	0	+0.2	+1.9	+0.1
Philadelphia	+0.3	+0.2	+0.6	<u>4/</u>	+0.1	+1.5	+0.6
Pittsburgh	+0.1	-1.4	+3.3	+0.2 <u>3/</u>	0	+2.3	+0.6
Scranton	0	-0.7	+1.1	0 <u>3/</u>	+0.1	+0.8	+0.5
East North Central:							
Chicago	+0.2	-0.6	+1.1	+0.1 <u>3/</u>	0	+1.1	+1.3
Cincinnati	+0.4	-0.8	+2.4	+0.2 <u>3/</u>	+0.1	+0.8	+1.7
Cleveland	-1.0	-1.5	+0.9	+0.1	-9.7	+1.6	+0.3
Detroit	+0.1	-1.0	+1.3	+0.1	-0.4	+2.6	+0.8
Indianapolis	+0.3	-0.4	+0.3	+0.2	0	-0.3	+2.2
Milwaukee	0	-0.2	+0.4	<u>4/</u>	-0.4	+0.1	+0.7
West North Central:							
Kansas City	+0.4	+0.1	+1.6	+0.3 <u>3/</u>	0	+1.7	+0.2
Minneapolis	+0.5	+0.5	+1.1	<u>4/</u>	0	+1.1	+0.3
St. Louis	+0.1	-0.2	+0.1	<u>4/</u>	0	+0.2	+0.8
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta	+1.3	+0.7	+1.8	<u>4/</u>	-0.4	+0.8	+3.1
Baltimore	+1.2	+2.3	+0.4	<u>4/</u>	-0.1	+1.2	+0.6
Jacksonville	+0.2	-0.9	+0.9	+0.6 <u>3/</u>	0	+2.2	+1.6
Norfolk	+0.8	+1.5	+0.3	+0.2	+0.2	+1.8	+0.2
Richmond	+0.9	+2.2	+0.4	<u>4/</u>	0	0	0
Savannah	-0.4	-1.5	+0.9	+0.4 <u>3/</u>	-0.1	+1.4	0
Washington, D.C.	+0.8	+1.4	+0.6	0 <u>3/</u>	-0.1	+1.5	+0.6
East South Central:							
Birmingham	+0.8	+1.4	+0.3	<u>4/</u>	+0.3	+1.2	+0.6
Memphis	0	-0.6	+0.7	<u>4/</u>	0	+0.4	+0.3
Mobile	-0.4	-1.4	+0.7	+0.3	0	0	+0.2
West South Central:							
Houston	-0.1	-1.2	+1.0	<u>4/</u>	0	+3.4	+0.2
New Orleans	-0.8	-1.8	+0.4	+0.2 <u>3/</u>	0	+0.2	+0.4
Mountain:							
Denver	+1.0	+1.1	+1.1	+0.2 <u>3/</u>	+0.1	+2.4	+1.2
Pacific:							
Los Angeles	+0.9	+1.8	+0.2	+0.2 <u>3/</u>	0	+1.1	+0.1
Portland, Oreg.	+1.1	+2.3	+0.4	-0.1 <u>3/</u>	0	+0.5	+0.8
San Francisco	+2.2	+4.0	+1.9	<u>4/</u>	0	+0.1	+1.1
Seattle	+0.9	+1.6	-0.1	<u>4/</u>	0	+7.6	+0.5

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the 15th of the month.

2/ Based on rents in 20 large cities surveyed in December and assuming no change in rents in cities not surveyed in December. See note at end of text.

3/ Change from June 15, 1944. 4/ Rentals not reported in Dec. See note at end of text.

Table 5.

Report for December 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*
 (Some indexes for Oct. and Nov. revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel Electricity and ice	House furnish- ings	Mis- cella- neous
Average: Large Cities:							
October 15	126.5	136.4 1/2	141.9	2/	109.8	141.4	122.8
November 15	126.6	136.5 1/2	142.1	2/	109.9	141.7	122.9
December 15	127.0	137.4 1/2	142.0	108.5 2/	109.4	143.0	123.1
New England:							
Boston:							
October 15	122.7	131.1	139.4	2/	120.0	138.4	117.2
November 15	123.0	131.8	139.6	2/	120.2	138.4	117.3
December 15	123.5	132.7	139.9	105.0	120.2	139.5	117.3
Manchester:							
October 15	2/	133.4	2/	2/	127.4	2/	2/
November 15	2/	133.6	2/	2/	127.5	2/	2/
December 15	129.3	133.6	146.4	2/	127.4	146.4	122.1
Portland, Maine:							
October 15	2/	133.8	2/	2/	119.0	2/	2/
November 15	2/	133.2	2/	2/	119.2	2/	2/
December 15	125.6	133.1	142.6	2/	119.3	137.9	122.4
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo:							
October 15	127.1	134.7	139.8	2/	106.9	142.5	126.2
November 15	126.7	133.4	140.2	2/	106.9	142.8	126.2
December 15	127.1	134.1	140.9	114.8	106.9	143.0	126.2
New York:							
October 15	127.1	137.2	147.8	2/	113.8	134.0	125.6
November 15	127.3	137.4	148.0	2/	114.0	134.1	125.6
December 15	127.9	138.7	148.6	103.5	114.0	136.4	125.7
Philadelphia:							
October 15	125.0	133.5	143.4	2/	109.1	139.1	120.1
November 15	125.0	133.3	143.5	2/	109.2	139.2	120.3
December 15	125.9	135.0	144.0	2/	109.2	141.2	120.5
Pittsburgh:							
October 15	127.5	136.6	160.1	2/	112.0	137.1	119.5
November 15	126.9	134.7	160.5	2/	112.0	137.8	119.6
December 15	128.0	136.1	164.7	107.6	112.0	139.6	119.6
Scranton:							
October 15	2/	138.1	2/	2/	111.0	2/	2/
November 15	2/	136.3	2/	2/	111.0	2/	2/
December 15	125.0	137.2	146.4	97.2	111.1	144.0	115.5
East North Central:							
Chicago:							
October 15	125.8	135.8	136.1	2/	105.2	140.1	121.0
November 15	125.9	135.8	136.3	2/	105.2	140.5	121.2
December 15	126.3	136.5	137.2	114.8	105.2	141.4	121.4
Cincinnati:							
October 15	125.8	133.4	142.0	2/	106.2	145.6	124.4
November 15	126.3	134.4	142.6	2/	106.2	145.7	124.7
December 15	126.8	134.7	144.2	105.6	106.2	145.8	125.5

Table 5 (Continued)

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Report for December 15, 1944

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*
 (Some indexes for Oct. and Nov. Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Cleveland:							
October 15	130.1	141.9	142.6	2/	115.3	139.7	122.1
November 15	130.4	142.6	142.9	2/	115.3	139.8	122.2
December 15	129.1	140.6	143.7	115.9	104.1	141.9	122.3
Detroit:							
October 15	127.2	132.8	140.3	2/	112.3	143.6	128.5
November 15	127.1	132.3	140.4	2/	112.3	143.9	128.6
December 15	127.5	132.7	140.9	114.9	111.9	146.3	129.4
Indianapolis:							
October 15	2/	132.7	2/	2/	112.2	2/	2/
November 15	2/	133.1	2/	2/	112.2	2/	2/
December 15	128.0	133.3	136.8	115.9	112.2	149.5	126.7
Milwaukee:							
October 15	2/	135.7	2/	2/	109.0	2/	2/
November 15	2/	135.2	2/	2/	109.5	2/	2/
December 15	124.3	135.2	133.9	2/	109.5	142.7	119.2
West North Central:							
Kansas City:							
October 15	124.0	129.7	140.3	2/	110.2	128.1	125.1
November 15	124.2	130.3	140.5	2/	110.2	128.2	125.1
December 15	124.8	131.0	142.2	109.8	110.2	130.0	125.3
Minneapolis:							
October 15	123.0	130.4	137.4	2/	103.1	134.7	122.1
November 15	122.9	130.0	137.6	2/	103.1	135.2	122.1
December 15	123.2	130.4	138.0	2/	103.1	135.7	122.4
St. Louis:							
October 15	124.6	138.0	139.7	2/	107.2	126.1	118.5
November 15	124.9	138.5	139.8	2/	107.2	126.1	119.2
December 15	125.3	139.5	139.8	2/	107.2	126.2	119.3
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta:							
October 15	2/	136.9	2/	2/	116.2	2/	2/
November 15	2/	137.9	2/	2/	116.2	2/	2/
December 15	128.7	138.8	139.7	2/	114.1	133.7	130.4
Baltimore:							
October 15	128.3	142.0	146.2	2/	108.9	147.4	121.0
November 15	129.2	144.3	146.3	2/	109.0	147.8	121.3
December 15	129.2	143.9	146.5	2/	108.9	148.4	121.5
Jacksonville:							
October 15	2/	146.1	2/	2/	114.2	2/	2/
November 15	2/	145.9	2/	2/	114.2	2/	2/
December 15	134.4	146.8	141.0	113.2	114.2	153.4	133.8
Norfolk:							
October 15	2/	140.8	2/	2/	119.6	2/	2/
November 15	2/	142.0	2/	2/	119.6	2/	2/
December 15	131.6	143.2	141.1	109.1	119.7	145.6	129.5

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*
(Some Indexes for Oct. and Nov. Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Richmond:							
October 15	<u>2/</u>	134.7	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	108.6	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
November 15	<u>2/</u>	135.7	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	108.6	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
December 15	124.4	137.1	142.4	<u>2/</u>	108.6	140.8	116.2
Savannah:							
October 15	134.5	150.9	142.5	<u>2/</u>	111.9	140.2	129.3
November 15	134.4	150.6	142.8	<u>2/</u>	111.9	140.2	129.3
December 15	134.6	150.5	142.9	115.7	111.9	141.8	129.4
Washington, D. C.							
October 15	124.8	134.7	149.1	<u>2/</u>	108.8	138.3	126.6
November 15	125.5	136.7	149.3	<u>2/</u>	108.8	139.0	126.6
December 15	125.8	137.1	149.8	100.3	108.8	139.7	126.8
East South Central:							
Birmingham:							
October 15	129.3	139.5	139.9	<u>2/</u>	104.5	133.9	124.7
November 15	130.5	141.3	139.9	<u>2/</u>	104.5	138.9	124.8
December 15	131.0	142.3	140.3	<u>2/</u>	104.5	140.6	125.1
Memphis:							
October 15	<u>2/</u>	144.9	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	105.4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
November 15	<u>2/</u>	144.9	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	105.4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
December 15	130.2	145.6	147.0	<u>2/</u>	105.4	139.0	119.6
Mobile:							
October 15	<u>2/</u>	145.4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	102.9	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
November 15	<u>2/</u>	145.0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	102.9	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
December 15	128.9	144.6	137.8	115.1	102.9	144.9	119.7
Vest South Central:							
Houston:							
October 15	124.6	136.6	137.7	<u>2/</u>	91.1	128.9	123.0
November 15	124.0	134.6	138.0	<u>2/</u>	91.1	129.4	123.0
December 15	124.7	135.9	138.7	<u>2/</u>	91.1	132.4	123.2
New Orleans:							
October 15	<u>2/</u>	150.7	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	104.4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
November 15	<u>2/</u>	149.7	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	104.4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
December 15	131.0	150.3	138.6	107.3	104.4	129.5	118.7
Mountain:							
Denver:							
October 15	125.2	136.2	133.5	<u>2/</u>	104.1	146.7	122.0
November 15	125.3	136.4	133.7	<u>2/</u>	104.1	146.9	122.0
December 15	126.1	137.9	134.6	109.5	104.2	148.8	122.1
Pacific:							
Los Angeles:							
October 15	128.7	143.0	139.7	<u>2/</u>	92.5	138.4	125.3
November 15	128.8	143.3	139.9	<u>2/</u>	92.5	138.4	125.3
December 15	129.1	143.9	139.9	110.7	92.5	138.0	125.3

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*
(Some Indexes for Oct. and Nov. Revised)

City and Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Portland, Oregon:							
October 15	<u>2/</u>	146.5	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	116.6	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
November 15	<u>2/</u>	146.8	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	116.6	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
December 15	133.3	148.1	141.8	115.4	116.6	138.0	127.0
San Francisco:							
October 15	131.0	145.2	140.0	<u>2/</u>	92.6	138.7	130.8
November 15	131.6	146.3	140.6	<u>2/</u>	92.6	138.7	131.1
December 15	132.7	149.1	141.4	<u>2/</u>	92.6	138.8	131.2
Seattle:							
October 15	130.5	143.3	141.5	<u>2/</u>	103.5	131.0	130.6
November 15	130.3	142.7	141.5	<u>2/</u>	103.5	133.8	130.6
December 15	131.1	143.9	141.4	<u>2/</u>	103.5	141.0	131.2

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

2/ Data not available.

3/ Based on rents in 20 large cities in December 1944 and assuming no change in cities not surveyed in December. See note at end of text.

Table 6. Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined 1/
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity Group	1944		1943	1942	1941	1939
	2/Dec. 12	Nov. 14	Dec. 14	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All Foods	137.4	136.5	137.1	126.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	108.6	108.6	108.4	105.4	94.9	93.4
Meats	129.9	129.7	130.9	130.6	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	118.3	118.2	119.2	126.0	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.3	112.2	113.0	124.0	86.1	88.0
Lamb	135.6	134.5	134.1	133.7	98.7	98.8
Chickens	150.6	150.4	148.5	133.7	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	211.0	210.3	225.2	168.2	118.7	99.6
Dairy Products	133.6	133.6	133.5	127.7	105.1	93.1
Eggs	188.5	186.73/	181.0	155.2	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	164.2	160.7	163.7	129.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	171.9	167.6	171.5	130.3	93.4	92.8
Canned	129.9	129.6	130.0	123.8	91.4	91.6
Dried	166.4	166.5	162.5	143.4	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.3	124.3	124.7	123.8	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	123.3	123.2	124.3	120.7	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	126.2	126.5	126.7	127.0	95.3	95.6

- 1/ The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.
 2/ Preliminary.
 3/ Revised.

Table 6-A. Percent Change

Commodity Group	Nov. 14	Dec. 14	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1944	1943	1942	1941	1939
	to	to	to	to	to
	Dec. 12	Dec. 12	Dec. 12	Dec. 12	Dec. 12
	1944	1944	1944	1944	1944
All foods	+ 0.7	+ 0.2	+ 8.5	+40.5	+47.0
Cereals and bakery products	0	+ .2	+ 3.0	+14.4	+16.3
Meats	+ .2	- .8	- .5	+28.5	+35.7
Beef and veal	+ .1	- .8	- 6.1	+ 8.1	+18.8
Pork	+ .1	- .6	- 9.4	+30.4	+27.6
Lamb	+ .8	+ 1.1	+ 1.4	+37.4	+37.2
Chickens	+ .1	+ 1.4	+12.6	+54.9	+59.2
Fish, fresh and canned	+ .3	- 6.3	+25.4	+77.3	+111.8
Dairy Products	0	+ .1	+ 4.6	+27.1	+43.5
Eggs	+ 1.0	+ 4.1	+21.5	+93.5	+107.8
Fruits and vegetables	+ 2.2	+ .3	+26.6	+76.0	+71.7
Fresh	+ 2.6	+ .2	+31.9	+84.0	+85.2
Canned	+ .2	- .1	+ 4.9	+42.1	+41.8
Dried	- .1	+ 2.4	+16.0	+67.1	+84.3
Beverages	0	- .3	+ .4	+36.7	+31.0
Fats and oils	+ .1	- .8	+ 2.2	+53.5	+45.9
Sugar and sweets	- .2	- .4	- .6	+32.4	+32.0

Table 7 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

Region and City	Percent Change - Nov. 14, 1944 to Dec. 12, 1944								
	All foods	Cereals and bakery	Meats	Dairy products	Eggs	Fruits and veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and oils	Sugar and sweets
United States	+0.7	0.0	+0.2	0.0	+1.0	+2.2	0.0	+0.1	-0.2
New England:									
Boston	+ .7	0	- .2	0	+ .1	+3.5	0	0	- .4
Bridgeport	+ .1	+ .2	+ .2	0	+1.5	- .6	- .6	+ .1	0
Fall River	+ .5	0	+ .1	0	+1.8	+1.5	- .3	- .1	0
Manchester	0	0	- .4	0	+3.5	- .7	+ .1	0	0
New Haven	+ .1	0	- .2	+ .1	+ .2	+ .6	0	0	+ .2
Portland, Maine	- .1	0	+ .2	- .1	+1.0	- .7	- .1	0	0
Providence	+ .1	+ .1	- .4	+ .2	+2.8	- .5	+ .2	- .2	0
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	+ .5	- .6	0	0	+2.1	+2.1	0	+ .3	- .1
Newark	+ .8	+ .1	+ .9	- .5	+ .4	+2.5	0	+ .2	+ .2
New York	+ .9	0	+1.0	- .4	+ .9	+2.9	0	- .1	- .1
Philadelphia	+1.3	0	+ .4	+ .1	+ .5	+5.0	0	+ .8	-2.4
Pittsburgh	+1.0	- .1	- .1	+ .1	+ .8	+4.6	- .2	- .1	- .2
Rochester	+1.2	0	0	- .2	+3.3	+5.5	0	+ .2	- .1
Scranton	+ .7	+ .6	+ .2	+ .1	+3.2	+1.3	0	- .1	- .4
East North Central:									
Chicago	+ .5	0	- .1	0	+ .6	+2.0	0	+ .1	- .2
Cincinnati	+ .2	0	- .2	0	+1.4	+ .9	0	0	- .3
Cleveland	-1.4	0	- .2	- .1	+ .2	-4.7	0	0	+ .1
Columbus, Ohio	+ .3	0	0	+ .1	+2.5	+ .1	0	+ .6	0
Detroit	+ .3	0	- .1	+ .4	+ .8	+ .8	+ .1	- .1	0
Indianapolis	+ .5	0	- .2	+ .1	+2.2	+2.0	0	0	0
Milwaukee	0	0	- .2	+ .1	- .8	+ .5	- .3	0	- .2
Peoria	+ .2	+ .1	+ .2	+ .2	- .7	+ .3	+ .3	+ .5	+2.5
Springfield, Ill.	+ .1	+ .1	- .3	- .2	-3.2	+1.6	0	+ .5	-2.1
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	+ .2	0	+ .1	+ .8	0	- .1	0	+ .1	+ .4
Kansas City	+ .5	+ .4	+ .1	0	- .8	+2.6	0	+ .2	+2.1
Minneapolis	+ .3	+ .1	0	0	- .2	+1.9	0	- .3	0
Omaha	- .2	- .1	0	0	+ .9	-1.2	0	- .1	0
St. Louis	+ .7	0	0	+ .1	+ .2	+2.8	- .2	- .1	- .3
St. Paul	+ .6	- .1	+ .1	0	- .6	+3.9	0	- .2	- .1
Wichita	+ .1	+ .3	- .1	+ .1	+ .4	+ .1	+ .4	+ .1	- .3

Table 7 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods (Cont'd)

Region and City	Percent Change - Nov. 14, 1944, to Dec. 12, 1944								
	All foods	Cereals and bakery	Meats	Dairy products	Eggs	Fruits and veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and oils	Sugar and sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	+0.7	+0.1	-0.1	0.0	+3.8	+2.4	0.0	-0.4	+0.2
Baltimore	-.3	0	-.7	+.2	+.2	-.2	-.1	-.3	0
Charleston, S. C.	+.2	0	+.1	+.2	+2.2	+.2	0	-.1	0
Jacksonville	+.6	+.1	-.1	0	+1.4	+2.2	0	0	0
Norfolk	+.8	0	0	0	+.2	+4.1	0	0	0
Richmond	+1.0	-.1	+.3	-.1	+1.4	+4.2	-.1	-.2	-.2
Savannah	-.1	0	+.1	-.1	+2.7	-1.0	+.3	-.2	-.2
Washington, D. C.	+.3	0	+.2	+.3	+.4	+.6	-.1	-.2	0
Winston-Salem	+.5	-.2	+1.2	0	+3.3	-1.0	-.2	0	-.1
East South Central:									
Birmingham	+.7	-.7	-1.6	0	+.3	+6.1	-.1	-.3	0
Jackson	+.7	+.3	+.7	0	+.7	+1.9	+1.8	-.1	0
Knoxville	+1.0	-.1	+.2	0	+1.7	+3.2	0	+.2	0
Louisville	+.8	-.1	+.1	0	+1.7	+3.6	+.3	-.8	+.2
Memphis	+.5	0	-.2	+1.3	+.7	+1.3	-.2	-.3	-.6
Mobile	-.3	0	+.1	0	+1.1	-1.8	0	-.1	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	+.5	+.2	+.1	0	+5.7	+.1	+.2	0	+.2
Houston	+1.0	0	0	0	+8.7	+1.8	-.7	+.1	0
Little Rock	+.5	-.3	+.1	+.1	+1.6	+1.4	+.8	+.2	+.1
New Orleans	+.4	0	+.9	+.2	+4.9	-1.0	0	0	0
Mountain:									
Butte	+.6	0	+.1	0	+4.3	+.9	-.1	+.1	0
Denver	+1.1	0	-.1	0	+2.5	+3.6	-.3	-.2	-.2
Salt Lake City	+.6	0	-1.1	-.1	+1.1	+3.2	-.4	-.3	0
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	+.4	+.1	+.2	0	+.5	+1.1	0	-.2	-.1
Portland, Oreg.	+.9	+.1	+.3	0	+.8	+2.8	+.1	0	+.2
San Francisco	+1.9	-.1	+.1	0	0	+6.3	+.8	+1.7	0
Seattle	+.8	-.3	+.2	+.1	+1.1	+3.3	-.1	+.1	0

Table 8 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity		Dec. 12 1944 Average prices Cents	Percent Change				
			Nov. 14 1944 to Dec. 12 1944	Dec. 14 1943 to Dec. 12 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Dec. 12 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Dec. 12 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Dec. 12 1944
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.1	-0.2	+ 1.1	+18.0	+54.8	+79.1
Macaroni	lb.	15.8	0	+ 1.3	+12.1	+14.5	+12.9
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.1	- .4	- .9	- 3.8	- 1.7	- 4.5
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.5	0	- 1.5	- 7.1	- 8.5	- 7.1
Corn meal	lb.	6.4	0	+ 8.5	+28.0	+52.4	+60.0
*Rice	"	12.8	+ .8	+ .8	+ 2.4	+62.0	+70.7
Rolled oats	"	10.2	0	+17.2	+17.2	+43.7	+43.7
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	12.3	0	+ 5.1	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	0	- 1.1	+ 1.1	+12.8	+12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.6	0	- 2.0	+ 1.1	+10.3	+ 9.1
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	- 2.0	+ 2.1	+10.0	+ 7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	28.9	+2.5	+ .7	+ 7.0	+15.1	<u>2/</u>
Soda crackers	"	18.9	0	+ 1.1	+13.9	+26.0	+27.7
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	40.6	0	- 2.9	- 8.1	+ 5.2	+11.5
Rib roast	"	32.9	- .3	- 3.5	- 5.2	+ 4.4	+13.8
Chuck roast	"	28.2	- .4	- 2.8	- 6.0	+11.9	+25.3
*Stew meat	"	30.4	- .7	- 3.8	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver	"	37.3	0	+ .5	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Hamburger	"	27.5	0	- 4.5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	44.8	+ .4	- 2.8	-18.4	- 0.9	+ 5.4
*Roast, boned & rolled	"	35.9	- .3	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:							
Chops	"	37.3	0	- .8	-13.5	+28.2	+20.7
Bacon, sliced	"	40.9	+ .2	- 1.2	0	+35.9	+34.5
Ham, sliced	"	50.0	- .2	- 3.5	-16.1	+10.9	+ 7.8
Ham, whole	"	35.2	0	- 1.4	- 8.1	+34.4	+28.5
Salt pork	"	21.9	- .9	- 3.5	- 8.0	+31.1	+42.2
*Liver	"	22.0	0	- .5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage	"	38.5	+ .3	+ .5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologna, big	"	33.9	- .3	- 1.5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:							
Leg	"	40.1	+ .5	- .5	+ 5.8	+44.2	+45.3
Rib chops	"	45.7	+ .9	0	- 3.0	+30.6	+24.5

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Table 8 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Dec. 12 1944 Average prices Cents	Percent Change				
		Nov. 14 1944 to Dec. 12 1944	Dec. 14 1943 to Dec. 12 1944	Sept. 15 1942 to Dec. 12 1944	Jan. 14 1941 to Dec. 12 1944	Aug. 15 1939 to Dec. 12 1944
MEATS: (Continued)						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens 2/ lb.	45.0	+ 0.1	+ 1.4	+12.6	+54.9	+ 59.2
Fish:						
Fish (fresh, frozen) 2/ lb.	1/	+ .4	- 7.3	+28.4	+83.1	+116.1
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	22.5	- 1.7	- 3.8	+ 3.2	+43.3	+ 75.8
*Salmon, red "	40.4	- 2.7	- 2.2	- .5	+53.0	+ 74.9
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter lb.	50.0	+ .4	- .4	- 1.2	+31.6	+ 62.9
Cheese "	36.0	- .6	0	+ 5.0	+33.3	+ 45.7
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	0	+ 4.0	+20.0	+ 30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	+ .7	+ 7.4	+21.8	+ 31.8
Milk, evaporated 14 1/2 oz. can	10.0	0	0	+12.4	+40.8	+ 49.3
EGGS:						
Eggs, fresh 2/ doz.	66.9	+ 1.0	+ 4.1	+21.5	+93.5	+107.8
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits and vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples lb.	10.7	+ 3.9	+ 1.9	+72.6	+105.8	+143.2
Bananas "	11.1	- .9	- 9.0	+ 7.8	+68.2	+ 82.0
Oranges doz.	43.7	- 5.0	+ .7	+11.8	+60.1	+ 38.7
*Grapefruit each	8.8	+ 2.3	+18.9	- 6.4	2/	2/
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green lb.	20.5	+ 1.5	+13.3	+76.7	+46.4	+184.7
Cabbage "	5.8	+23.4	+ 5.5	+48.7	+70.6	+ 48.7
Carrots bunch	9.2	+ 2.2	- 9.8	+33.3	+53.3	+100.0
Lettuce head	12.5	+14.7	- 3.8	0	+48.8	+ 48.8
Onions lb.	5.0	+ 5.4	-32.4	+11.1	+38.9	+ 38.9
Potatoes 15 lb.	67.6	+ 1.7	+ 7.8	+40.0	+31.5	+ 96.5
Spinach lb.	11.9	+10.2	+19.0	+11.2	+63.0	+ 52.6
Sweetpotatoes "	8.0	+17.6	-20.0	+25.0	+60.0	+ 45.5
*Beets bunch	9.7	+22.8	- 1.0	4/	4/	4/
Canned fruits and vegetables:						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches #2 1/2 can	27.8	+ .4	+ 5.3	+15.8	+68.5	+ 62.6
Pineapple "	26.7	- 1.8	- 4.0	- 5.7	+27.8	+ 27.1
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	0	0	+16.1	3/	3/

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

Table 8 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Percent Change					
	Dec. 12	Nov. 14	Dec. 14	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1944	1944 to	1943 to	1942 to	1941 to	1939 to
	Average prices	Dec. 12	Dec. 12	Dec. 12	Dec. 12	Dec. 12
Cents						
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)						
Canned vegetables:						
Beans, green #2 can	13.1	0.0	- 9.7	- 4.4	+31.0	+31.0
Corn "	14.7	0	+ 3.5	+10.5	+37.4	+41.3
Peas "	13.2	- .8	- 8.3	- 9.6	0	- 2.9
Tomatoes "	12.1	+1.7	- 2.4	+ 4.3	+44.0	+40.7
*Soup, vegetable 11 oz.can	13.3	- .7	+ 1.5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits and vegetables:						
Dried fruits:						
Prunes lb.	17.0	+1.2	+ 1.2	+14.2	+77.1	+93.2
Dried vegetables:						
Navy beans lb.	11.1	0	+ 5.7	+22.0	+70.8	+91.4
*Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle oz.	3.7	0	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:						
Coffee lb.	30.3	0	+ 1.3	+ 5.6	+45.4	+35.9
Tea $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	24.0	0	+ 1.7	+ 7.1	+36.4	+39.5
*Cocoa $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	10.4	0	+ 9.5	+ 2.0	+14.3	+20.9
FATS AND OILS:						
Lard lb.	18.8	0	0	+ 8.7	+102.2	+89.9
Shortening other than lard:						
In cartons lb.	20.2	0	+ 1.0	+ 3.6	+78.8	+72.6
In other containers "	24.8	- .4	- .4	+ 1.6	+35.5	+22.8
Salad dressing pt.	25.8	0	+ 1.2	+ 2.4	+28.4	<u>2/</u>
Oleomargarine lb.	24.2	+ .4	+ .8	+ 8.0	+35.1	+46.7
Peanut butter "	28.3	- .7	- 4.4	+ 1.8	+58.1	+58.1
*Oil, cooking or salad pt.	30.7	0	0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:						
Sugar lb.	6.7	0	- 1.5	- 2.9	+31.4	+28.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.8	0	- .6	+ 4.6	+16.2	+15.3
*Molasses 16 oz.	16.0	+ .6	+ .6	+ 7.4	+19.4	+17.6
*Apple butter 16 oz.	13.6	0	+ 3.0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 9 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100					Percent Change			
	Dec. 12	Nov. 14	Dec. 14	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Nov. 14	Dec. 14	Sept. 15	Jan. 14
	2/1944	1944	1943	1942	1941	1944	1943	1942	1941
						to Dec. 12 1944	to Dec. 12 1944	to Dec. 12 1944	to Dec. 12 1944
United States	137.4	136.5	137.1	126.6	97.8	+0.7	+0.2	+8.5	+40.5
New England:									
Boston	132.7	131.8	130.9	124.4	95.2	+1.7	+1.4	+6.7	+39.4
Bridgeport	134.6	134.5	136.7	127.1	96.5	+1.1	-1.5	+5.9	+39.5
Fall River	132.2	131.6	132.6	125.7	97.5	+1.5	-.3	+5.2	+35.6
Manchester	133.6	133.6	133.8	126.8	96.6	0	-.1	+5.4	+38.3
New Haven	135.3	135.2	136.9	126.2	95.7	+1.1	-1.2	+7.2	+41.4
Portland, Maine	133.1	133.2	134.4	125.8	95.3	-.1	-1.0	+5.8	+39.7
Providence	135.7	135.6	134.2	126.3	96.3	+1.1	+1.1	+7.4	+40.6
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	134.1	133.4	137.6	127.6	100.2	+1.5	-2.5	+5.1	+33.8
Newark	140.2	139.1	139.4	128.0	98.8	+1.8	+1.6	+9.5	+41.9
New York	138.7	137.4	139.1	125.2	99.5	+1.9	-.3	+10.8	+39.4
Philadelphia	135.0	133.3	136.1	123.9	95.0	+1.3	..8	+9.0	+42.1
Pittsburgh	136.1	134.7	135.1	125.9	98.0	+1.0	+1.7	+8.1	+38.9
Rochester	134.0	132.4	132.5	125.2	99.9	+1.2	+1.1	+7.0	+34.1
Scranton	137.2	136.3	136.2	125.6	97.5	+1.7	+1.7	+9.2	+40.7
East North Central:									
Chicago	136.5	135.8	133.7	124.9	98.2	+1.5	+2.1	+9.3	+39.0
Cincinnati	134.7	134.4	135.9	126.9	96.5	+1.2	-.9	+6.1	+39.6
Cleveland	140.6	142.6	142.6	127.3	99.2	-1.4	-1.4	+10.4	+41.7
Columbus, Ohio	129.4	129.0	130.7	119.6	93.4	+1.3	-1.0	+8.2	+38.5
Detroit	132.7	132.3	134.2	124.7	97.0	+1.3	-1.1	+6.4	+36.8
Indianapolis	133.8	133.1	134.4	127.1	98.2	+1.5	-.4	+5.3	+36.3
Milwaukee	133.2	135.2	132.9	121.0	95.9	0	+1.7	+11.7	+41.0
Peoria	140.5	140.2	140.8	130.7	99.0	+1.2	-.2	+7.5	+41.9
Springfield, Ill.	142.0	141.9	141.0	130.2	96.2	+1.1	+1.7	+9.1	+47.6
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids 4/	139.9	139.6	139.7	121.2	95.9	+1.2	+1.1	+15.4	+45.9
Kansas City	131.0	130.3	132.7	120.7	92.4	+1.5	-1.3	+8.5	+41.8
Minneapolis	130.4	130.0	132.3	123.3	92.2	+1.3	-1.4	+5.8	+31.7
Omaha	130.0	130.3	132.2	123.2	97.9	..2	-1.7	+5.5	+32.8
St. Louis	139.5	138.5	139.3	126.7	99.2	+1.7	+1.1	+10.1	+40.6
St. Paul	129.1	128.3	131.8	120.8	98.6	+1.6	-2.0	+6.9	+30.9
Wichita 4/	147.3	147.2	148.8	132.0	97.2	+1.1	-1.0	+11.6	+51.5

See footnotes at end of table.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

Table 9 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941 and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Dec. 12	Nov. 14	Dec. 14	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Nov. 14	Dec. 14	Sept. 15	Jan. 14
	1944	1944	1943	1942	1941	1944	1943	1942	1941
	<u>2/</u>					to	to	to	to
						Dec. 12	Dec. 12	Dec. 12	Dec. 12
						1944	1944	1944	1944
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	138.8	137.9	137.3	125.9	94.3	+0.7	+1.1	+10.2	+47.2
Baltimore	143.9	144.3	142.5	131.2	97.9	- .3	+1.0	+9.7	+47.0
Charleston, S. C.	135.0	134.7	134.4	126.6	95.9	+ .2	+ .4	+6.6	+40.8
Jacksonville	146.8	145.9	144.2	134.2	98.8	+ .6	+1.8	+9.4	+48.6
Norfolk <u>3/</u>	143.2	142.0	145.1	131.9	95.8	+ .8	-1.3	+8.6	+49.5
Richmond	137.1	135.7	136.0	126.2	93.7	+1.0	+ .8	+8.6	+46.3
Savannah	150.5	150.6	149.7	133.3	100.5	- .1	+ .5	+12.9	+49.8
Washington, D. C.	137.1	136.7	135.9	128.1	97.7	+ .3	+ .9	+7.0	+40.3
Winston-Salem <u>4/</u>	138.7	138.0	137.5	119.8	93.7	+ .5	+ .9	+15.8	+48.0
East South Central:									
Birmingham	142.3	141.3	141.2	125.3	96.0	+ .7	+ .8	+13.6	+48.2
Jackson <u>4/</u>	151.3	150.2	144.6	141.0	105.3	+ .7	+4.6	+7.3	+43.7
Knoxville <u>4/</u>	158.3	156.8	157.4	134.2	97.1	+1.0	+ .6	+18.0	+63.0
Louisville	132.0	131.0	134.0	124.2	95.5	+ .8	-1.5	+6.3	+38.2
Memphis	145.6	144.9	144.5	129.7	94.2	+ .5	+ .8	+12.3	+54.6
Mobile	144.6	145.0	144.9	133.9	97.9	- .3	- .2	+8.0	+47.7
West South Central:									
Dallas	133.4	132.7	135.5	123.7	92.6	+ .5	-1.5	+7.8	+44.1
Houston	135.9	134.6	137.3	130.8	102.6	+1.0	-1.0	+3.9	+32.5
Little Rock	137.0	136.3	135.5	129.2	95.6	+ .5	+1.1	+6.0	+43.3
New Orleans	150.3	149.7	149.0	135.9	101.9	+ .4	+ .9	+10.6	+47.5
Mountain:									
Butte	134.3	133.5	137.2	124.6	98.7	+ .6	-2.1	+7.8	+36.1
Denver	137.9	136.4	138.7	126.8	94.8	+1.1	- .6	+8.8	+45.5
Salt Lake City	141.9	141.1	141.3	130.1	97.5	+ .6	+ .4	+9.1	+45.5
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	143.9	143.3	143.3	137.9	101.8	+ .4	+ .4	+4.4	+41.4
Portland, Oreg.	148.1	146.8	144.9	141.2	101.7	+ .9	+2.2	+4.9	+45.6
San Francisco	149.1	146.3	143.7	133.5	99.6	+1.9	+3.8	+11.7	+49.7
Seattle	143.9	142.7	143.1	137.3	101.0	+ .8	+ .6	+4.8	+42.5

- 1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.
- 2/ Preliminary.
- 3/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.
- 4/ June 1940 equals 100.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD - JANUARY 1945

The BLS index indicates average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. The items covered represented 70 percent of the expenditures of families who had incomes ranging from \$1250 to \$2000 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods and forced changes in housing and eating away from home.

It does not measure changes in total "living costs" -- that is, in the total amount families spend for living. Income taxes and bond subscriptions are not included.

For a description of the methods used in computing the index, ask for "Description of the Cost of Living Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics." For an appraisal of the factors enumerated above, see the report of the President's Committee on the Cost of Living, November 17, 1944.

Retail prices to city wage earners and lower-salaried workers rose slightly (by 0.1 percent) between mid-December and mid-January, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins announced today. "Scattered price increases for cotton clothing and for housefurnishings more than offset a small decline in average food prices," she said.

"The Bureau of Labor Statistics index of living costs for January 1945 is 127.1 percent of the 1935-39 average, and 2.3 percent above the level of a year ago.

"Substantial decreases in egg prices, usual at this time of year, were mainly responsible for the 0.1 percent decrease in average food costs over the month. Small reductions in fresh and frozen fish prices and in canned fruits and vegetables also occurred. Fresh fruits and vegetables were up 3.5 percent on the average, as higher prices for oranges, apples, cabbage, onions, green beans, white potatoes and sweetpotatoes more than counter-balanced decreases in prices of lettuce, carrots and spinach and bananas.

"The shortage of low-cost clothing articles, especially cotton wash dresses, men's overalls, business shirts, socks and woolen sweaters caused a slight rise of 0.1 percent in average clothing costs. There were some price declines, reflecting end-of-season sales, chiefly for women's heavy winter coats. Similar reductions in prices of men's coats were not as widespread as usual at this time of year.

"Housefurnishings prices rose 0.4 percent, mainly because of the disappearance of lower-priced lines of living room and bedroom suites.

"Prices for fuel, electricity and ice were up by 0.3 percent, primarily because of return to regular bills for gas or electricity in three cities -- Atlanta, Cleveland, and Detroit -- after rebates were granted in December. In Cleveland a lower rate was set in December. In two cities -- New Orleans and Minneapolis -- gas rates were lowered in January with rebates allowed for the month in New Orleans. Prices of heating fuels remained stable on the average, but supplies became so short in the Northeastern states, due to interruption of transportation by snow, that officials in several cities set up temporary rationing procedures.

"Prices of miscellaneous goods and services remained stable on the average. In Buffalo, New York, charges for streetcar tokens were lowered in January.

"Rents were not surveyed in January."

Table 1

- 3 -

Report for January 15, 1945

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
September 15	117.8	126.6	125.8	108.0	106.2	123.6	111.4
1944: January 15	124.2	136.1	134.7	108.1	109.5	128.3	118.4
December 15	127.0	137.4	142.8	108.3	109.4	143.0	123.1
1945: January 15	127.1	137.3	143.0	<u>1/</u>	109.7	143.6	123.1

Table 1a

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent <u>2/</u>	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Dec. 15, 1944 to Jan. 15, 1945	/ 0.1	- 0.1	/ 0.1	<u>1/</u>	/ 0.3	/ 0.4	0
Jan. 15, 1944 to Jan. 15, 1945	/ 2.3	/ 0.9	/ 6.2	/ 0.2	/ 0.2	/ 11.9	/ 4.0
Sept. 15, 1942 to Jan. 15, 1945	/ 7.9	/ 8.5	/ 13.7	/ 0.3	/ 3.3	/ 16.2	/ 10.5
May 15, 1942 to Jan. 15, 1945	/ 9.6	/ 12.9	/ 13.3	- 1.5	/ 4.6	/ 17.5	/ 11.0
Jan. 15, 1941 to Jan. 15, 1945	/ 26.1	/ 40.4	/ 42.0	/ 3.1	/ 8.8	/ 43.5	/ 20.8
Aug. 15, 1939 to Jan. 15, 1945	/ 28.9	/ 46.8	/ 42.6	/ 3.8	/ 12.5	/ 42.7	/ 22.6

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed in January.

2/ Changes through Dec. 15, 1944.

Table 2

- 4 -

Report for January 15, 1945

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Change between Dec. 15, 1944 and Jan. 15, 1945 by Groups*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Average: Large Cities	/ 0.1 <u>1/</u>	-0.1 <u>2/</u>	/ 0.1 <u>3/</u>	/ 0.3 <u>4/</u>	/ 0.4 <u>3/</u>	0 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	0	/ 0.1	-0.1	0	0	/ 0.1
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	/ 0.2	/ 1.0	-0.4	0	-0.1	-0.4
New York	0	0	/ 0.1	0	0	0
Philadelphia	0	/ 0.1	0	/ 0.1	/ 0.1	0
Pittsburgh	/ 0.1	/ 0.2	/ 0.2	0	0	0
East North Central:						
Chicago	-0.3	-0.9	/ 0.3	0	/ 0.3	/ 0.2
Cincinnati	<u>5/</u> / 0.3	/ 0.6	-0.3	0	0	<u>5/</u> / 0.4
Cleveland	/ 0.5	/ 0.1	/ 0.1	/ 7.8	0	0
Detroit	-0.1	-0.2	/ 0.1	/ 0.4	/ 0.1	0
West North Central:						
Kansas City	/ 0.2	/ 0.5	/ 0.2	0	/ 0.1	/ 0.1
Minneapolis	0	/ 0.2	0	-0.5	0	0
St. Louis	/ 0.2	/ 0.6	-0.1	0	0	0
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	/ 0.4	/ 0.9	/ 0.5	-0.2	0	0
Savannah	/ 0.2	/ 0.3	/ 0.3	0	/ 2.9	-0.1
Washington, D.C.	/ 0.2	/ 0.7	/ 0.2	0	/ 0.1	-0.1
East South Central:						
Birmingham	/ 0.2	/ 0.4	/ 0.4	/ 0.2	/ 0.1	0
West South Central:						
Houston	/ 0.3	/ 0.4	0	0	/ 4.5	0
Mountain:						
Denver	/ 0.1	-0.1	/ 0.2	0	/ 2.1	0
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	0	-0.3	/ 0.6	0	/ 1.1	0
San Francisco	-0.5	-1.5	/ 0.3	0	0	/ 0.1
Seattle	-0.1	-0.3	/ 0.3	/ 0.2	0	0

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed in January.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest 15th of the month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

5/ Indexes for Dec. 1944 Revised: All items 126.6; Misc. 124.5.

Table 3

- 5 -

Report for January 15, 1945

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and Other Specified Dates*

Region and City	Jan. 15, 1944 to Jan. 15, 1945	Aug. 15, 1939 to Jan. 15, 1945	Jan. 1, 1941 to Jan. 15, 1945	May 15, 1942 to Jan. 15, 1945	Sept. 15, 1942 to Jan. 15, 1945
Average: Large Cities	+2.3	+28.9	+26.1	+9.6	+7.9
New England:					
Boston	+2.0	+27.2	+24.6	+8.9	+6.3
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+1.8	+29.3	+25.0	+5.7	+5.7
New York	+2.6	+29.2	+26.6	+12.9	+10.0
Philadelphia	+2.0	+28.7	+26.9	+9.8	+7.7
Pittsburgh	+3.0	+30.2	+26.6	+10.6	+9.0
East North Central:					
Chicago	+2.6	+27.6	+24.4	+8.1	+7.3
Cincinnati	+2.5	+30.5	+27.5	+9.6	+7.6
Cleveland	+1.6	+29.8	+27.3	+9.3	+8.5
Detroit	+1.9	+29.3	+26.1	+7.2	+7.6
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+2.6	+26.9	+27.1	+9.6	+9.1
Minneapolis	+2.0	+23.6	+21.0	+6.3	+5.5
St. Louis	+2.2	+28.0	+24.4	+8.7	+7.7
South Atlantic:					
Baltimore	+2.9	+31.4	+28.8	+9.7	+8.3
Savannah	+1.7	+35.9	+33.0	+11.6	+10.5
Washington, D. C.	+2.0	+27.9	+26.2	+9.9	+7.7
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+2.7	+33.3	+29.2	+10.6	+10.5
West South Central:					
Houston	+1.4	+24.2	+22.6	+7.7	+6.0
Mountain:					
Denver	+2.9	+28.0	+26.2	+9.2	+7.7
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+2.2	+28.5	+26.0	+9.3	+6.1
San Francisco	+3.4	+32.9	+29.7	+12.2	+9.2
Seattle	+2.0	+30.6	+28.3	+8.1	+6.8

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

Table 4

- 6 -

Report for January 15, 1945

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	127.1 <u>1/</u>	137.3 <u>2/</u>	143.0 <u>3/</u>	109.7 <u>4/</u>	143.6 <u>3/</u>	123.1 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	123.5	132.8	139.8	120.2	139.5	117.4
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	127.4	135.5	140.3	106.9	142.9	125.7
New York	127.9	138.7	148.7	114.0	136.4	125.7
Philadelphia	125.9	135.1	144.0	109.3	141.3	120.5
Pittsburgh	128.1	136.4	165.0	112.0	139.6	119.6
East North Central:						
Chicago	125.9	135.3	137.6	105.2	141.8	121.6
Cincinnati	127.0	135.5	143.8	106.2	145.8	125.0
Cleveland	129.8	140.3	143.9	112.2	141.9	122.3
Detroit	127.4	132.4	141.0	112.4	146.4	129.4
West North Central:						
Kansas City	125.1	131.6	142.5	110.2	130.1	125.4
Minneapolis	123.2	130.7	138.0	102.6	135.7	122.4
St. Louis	125.6	140.3	139.6	107.2	126.2	119.3
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	129.7	145.2	147.3	108.7	148.4	121.5
Savannah	134.9	150.9	143.3	111.9	145.9	129.3
Washington, D. C.	126.1	138.0	150.1	108.8	139.8	126.7
East South Central:						
Birmingham	131.3	142.8	140.9	104.7	140.3	125.1
West South Central:						
Houston	125.1	136.5	138.7	91.1	138.3	123.2
Mountain:						
Denver	126.2	137.8	134.9	104.2	151.9	122.1
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	129.1	143.4	140.7	92.5	139.5	125.3
San Francisco	132.0	146.9	141.8	92.6	138.8	131.3
Seattle	131.0	143.4	141.8	103.7	141.0	131.2

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed in January.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

Table 5. Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined ^{1/}
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity group	1945		1944		1942		1941		1939
	2/ Jan. 16	Dec. 12	Jan. 18		Sept. 15		Jan. 14	Aug. 15	
All foods	137.3	137.4	136.1		126.6		97.8	93.5	
Cereals and bakery products	108.7	108.6	108.5		105.4		94.9	93.4	
Meats	130.2	129.9	131.0		130.6		101.1	95.7	
Beef and veal	118.4	118.3	119.3		126.0		109.4	99.6	
Pork	112.5	112.3	112.8		124.0		86.1	88.0	
Lamb	135.5	135.6	133.8		133.7		98.7	98.8	
Chickens	152.2	150.6	149.9		133.7		97.2	94.6	
Fish, fresh and canned	210.1	211.0	223.5		168.2		118.7	99.6	
Dairy Products	133.5	133.5 ^{3/}	133.5		127.7		105.1	93.1	
Eggs	169.6	188.5	154.0		155.2		97.4	90.7	
Fruits and vegetables	168.9	164.2	166.7		129.7		93.3	92.4	
Fresh	178.0	171.9	175.3		130.3		93.4	92.8	
Canned	129.7	129.9	129.7		123.8		91.4	91.6	
Dried	166.9	166.4	162.8		143.4		99.6	90.3	
Beverages	124.4	124.3	124.4		123.8		90.9	94.9	
Fats and oils	123.4	123.3	124.0		120.7		80.3	84.5	
Sugar and sweets	126.4	126.4 ^{3/}	126.6		127.0		95.3	95.6	

^{1/} The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.

^{2/} Preliminary.

^{3/} Revised.

Table 5-A, Percent Change

Commodity group	Dec. 12 1944 to Jan. 16 1945	Jan. 18 1944 to Jan. 16 1945	Sept. 15 1942 to Jan. 16 1945	Jan. 14 1941 to Jan. 16 1945	Aug. 15 1939 to Jan. 16 1945
All foods	- 0.1	+ 0.9	+ 8.5	+40.4	+46.8
Cereals and bakery products	+ .1	+ .2	+ 3.1	+14.5	+16.4
Meats	+ .2	+ .6	- .3	+28.8	+36.1
Beef and veal	+ .1	+ .8	- 6.0	+ 8.2	+18.9
Pork	+ .2	+ .3	- 9.3	+30.7	+27.8
Lamb	- .1	+ 1.3	+ 1.3	+37.3	+37.1
Chickens	+ 1.1	+ 1.5	+13.8	+56.6	+60.9
Fish, fresh and canned	- .4	+ 6.0	+24.9	+77.0	+110.9
Dairy Products	0	0	+ 4.5	+27.0	+43.4
Eggs	-10.0	+10.1	+ 9.3	+74.1	+87.0
Fruits and vegetables	+ 2.9	+ 1.3	+30.2	+81.0	+82.8
Fresh	+ 3.5	+ 1.5	+36.6	+90.6	+91.8
Canned	- .2	0	+ 4.8	+41.9	+41.6
Dried	+ .3	+ 2.5	+16.4	+67.6	+84.8
Beverages	+ .1	0	+ .5	+36.9	+31.1
Fats and oils	+ .1	+ .5	+ 2.2	+53.7	+46.0
Sugar and sweets	0	+ .2	- .5	+32.6	+32.2

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

Region and City	Percent Change - Dec. 12, 1944 to Jan. 16, 1945								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
United States	-0.1	+0.1	+0.2	0.0	-10.0	+2.9	+0.1	+0.1	0.0
New England:									
Boston	+ .1	+ .2	+ .6	+ .1	-12.3	+3.9	0	- .1	+ .1
Bridgeport	- .3	0	+ .2	- .1	-12.5	+3.3	0	+ .2	0
Fall River	+ .2	0	+ .7	+ .2	-14.4	+6.6	0	- .2	0
Manchester	+ .3	0	+ .2	+ .2	-14.9	+7.4	0	+ .3	+ .4
New Haven	- .1	- .1	+ .5	- .1	- 9.5	+1.7	+ .4	+ .1	- .2
Portland, Me.	- .5	+ .1	+ .2	+ .1	-17.6	+5.5	0	0	0
Providence	- .1	0	+ .2	0	-12.7	+3.8	- .2	0	+ .2
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	+1.0	0	- .2	+ .2	-12.4	+8.9	0	- .0	-1.2
Newark	- .1	0	+ .4	0	- 9.2	+1.8	- .1	+ .3	0
New York	0	0	0	0	-10.4	+3.1	+ .1	- .2	+1.1
Philadelphia	+ .1	0	+ .3	+ .1	- 8.5	+3.0	0	+ .5	- .2
Pittsburgh	+ .2	+ .1	- .1	0	-12.1	+5.3	+ .2	+ .1	- .1
Rochester	+ .2	0	+ .1	0	-10.7	+6.7	0	0	- .3
Scranton	0	- .8	- .4	- .3	-11.6	+5.3	0	+ .2	- .5
East North Central:									
Chicago	- .9	0	+ .2	- .1	- 8.2	-1.5	- .2	- .1	+ .2
Cincinnati	+ .6	+ .1	+ .5	0	-10.5	+4.2	0	+ .1	+ .2
Cleveland	+ .1	+ .3	+ .1	0	-10.3	+3.1	- .1	0	- .8
Columbus, O.	+ .1	0	+ .4	0	- 9.5	+5.5	+ .1	+ .2	- .3
Detroit	- .2	+ .1	+ .6	- .4	-11.6	+2.5	+ .6	- .4	- .8
Indianapolis	+ .3	+ .1	+1.1	0	- 7.5	+3.2	0	+ .5	0
Milwaukee	0	- .3	+ .2	+ .1	- 9.0	+3.2	+ .3	- .1	- .4
Peoria	- .4	0	- .2	0	- 9.2	+ .9	+ .3	0	-2.1
Springfield, Ill.	+ .5	- .2	+ .9	0	- 6.5	+1.8	0	+ .1	+2.0
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	+ .6	+ .2	+ .5	- .7	- 7.8	+4.8	- .1	+ .2	0
Kansas City	+ .5	0	- .2	+ .2	- 4.3	+4.0	0	- .1	- .6
Minneapolis	+ .2	0	+ .2	0	- 1.8	+1.6	0	+ .2	0
Omaha	+ .5	+ .1	+ .1	0	- 1.8	+2.4	0	0	0
St. Louis	+ .6	0	+ .1	+ .1	- 3.2	+2.9	- .2	0	0
St. Paul	+ .4	+ .1	+ .7	- .2	- 3.0	+2.5	- .3	+ .2	+ .9
Wichita	+ .5	0	+ .8	0	- 6.0	+3.5	+ .2	+ .2	+ .5

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods (Cont'd)

Region and City	Percent Change - Dec. 12, 1944 to Jan. 16, 1945								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	+0.6	0.0	+0.4	-0.1	- 9.7	+7.0	-0.1	+0.2	+0.2
Baltimore	+ .9	- .1	+1.8	+ .1	- 8.3	+3.7	0	+ .2	+ .1
Charleston, S.C.	- .5	+ .2	+ .5	0	-13.0	+1.1	0	+ .5	0
Jacksonville	- .3	0	- .4	+ .4	-12.1	+3.7	0	- .1	+ .2
Norfolk	+1.3	+ .2	0	+ .2	- 9.5	+9.0	0	0	0
Richmond	- .4	+ .2	- .1	+ .2	-10.9	+3.9	+ .1	0	+ .2
Savannah	+ .3	+ .2	- .6	0	- 6.9	+3.9	0	+ .3	+ .5
Washington, D.C.	+ .7	0	- .6	0	-12.5	+6.7	0	- .1	-2.0
Winston-Salem	+ .7	0	+ .1	- .2	- 6.0	+6.3	- .4	0	+ .1
East South Central:									
Birmingham	+ .4	+ .4	+2.6	+ .1	- 9.9	+5.0	0	0	0
Jackson	+1.1	- .1	- .1	0	- 2.7	+5.9	+ .1	0	+ .1
Knoxville	+1.2	0	- .1	+ .1	- 2.2	+6.1	0	+ .2	0
Louisville	- .1	- .1	- .1	0	-11.0	+4.7	- .3	+ .7	- .2
Memphis	+1.0	0	+ .2	- .1	- 5.9	+5.7	0	+ .9	+ .4
Mobile	- .6	+ .3	- .1	0	-14.0	+1.9	0	- .1	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	+ .2	+ .3	- .2	+ .2	-13.6	+6.1	0	- .2	0
Houston	+ .4	0	+ .1	+ .4	-11.8	+6.1	- .1	- .2	0
Little Rock	+ .2	- .2	- .5	- .1	-12.8	+6.3	- .3	- .2	0
New Orleans	+ .2	0	- .2	- .1	- 9.5	+4.2	+ .1	- .1	- .1
Mountain:									
Butte	+ .4	0	+ .7	- .3	- 9.6	+3.0	- .2	+ .6	+1.6
Denver	- .1	+4.1	+ .1	+ .4	-15.0	+ .6	+1.1	0	+ .1
Salt Lake City	-1.1	0	0	- .1	-11.3	- .3	+ .1	+ .3	- .2
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	- .3	+ .1	- .2	+ .1	-10.6	+2.2	+ .2	+ .1	- .1
Portland, Oreg.	- .7	0	+ .4	+ .1	-12.6	+1.3	+ .3	+ .1	+ .1
San Francisco	-1.5	0	+ .2	0	-12.0	-1.0	0	+ .1	- .2
Seattle	- .3	0	+1.3	0	-11.9	+2.6	+ .3	+ .2	0

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity		Percent Change					
		Jan. 16	Dec. 12	Jan. 18	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
		1945	1944 to	1944 to	1942 to	1941 to	1939 to
		Average	Jan. 16	Jan. 16	Jan. 16	Jan. 16	Jan. 16
		Prices	1945	1945	1945	1945	1945
		Cents					
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.2	+0.2	- 0.6	+18.2	+55.1	+79.3
Macaroni	lb.	15.7	0	+ 1.3	+11.3	+13.8	+12.1
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	22.7	-1.7	- 2.6	- 5.4	- 3.4	- 6.2
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.5	0	0	- 7.1	- 8.5	- 7.1
Corn meal	lb.	6.4	0	+ 8.5	+28.0	+52.4	+60.0
*Rice	"	12.6	-1.6	- 1.6	+ .8	+59.5	+68.0
Rollled oats	"	10.2	0	+17.2	+17.2	+43.7	+43.7
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	12.1	-1.6	+ 1.7	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	0	- 1.1	+ 1.1	+12.8	+12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.6	0	- 2.0	+ 1.1	+10.3	+ 9.1
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	- 1.0	+ 2.1	+10.0	+ 7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	28.8	- .3	0	+ 6.7	+14.7	<u>2/</u>
Soda crackers	"	18.9	0	+ 1.1	+13.9	+26.0	+27.7
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	40.5	- .2	- 3.6	- 8.4	+ 4.9	+11.3
Rib roast	"	32.8	- .3	- 3.5	- 5.5	+ 4.1	+13.5
Chuck roast	"	28.1	- .4	- 3.8	- 6.3	+11.5	+24.9
*Stew meat	"	29.5	-3.0	- 6.9	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver	"	37.3	0	+ .3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Hamburger	"	27.4	- .4	- 4.5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	44.5	- .7	- 3.3	-18.9	- 1.5	+ 4.7
*Roast, boned and rolled	"	35.2	-1.9	- .6	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:							
Chops	"	37.3	0	- .8	-13.5	+28.2	+20.7
Bacon, sliced	"	40.9	0	- 1.2	0	+35.9	+34.5
Ham, sliced	"	50.0	0	- 3.1	-16.1	+10.9	+ 7.8
Ham, whole	"	35.3	+ .3	- .8	- 7.8	+34.7	+28.8
Salt pork	"	22.2	+1.4	- 1.8	- 6.7	+32.9	+44.2
*Liver	"	21.7	-1.4	- 2.3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage	"	37.6	-2.3	- 2.1	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologan, big	"	33.2	-2.1	- 3.5	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:							
Leg	"	39.9	- .5	- .5	+ 5.3	+43.5	+44.6
Rib chops	"	45.4	- .7	+ .2	- 3.6	+29.7	+23.7

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Percent Change					
	Jan. 16	Dec. 12	Jan. 18	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1945	1944 to	1944 to	1942 to	1941 to	1939 to
	Average	Jan. 16	Jan. 16	Jan. 16	Jan. 16	Jan. 16
	Prices	1945	1945	1945	1945	1945
	Cents					
MEATS: (Continued)						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens ^{2/} lb.	45.5	+ 1.1	+ 1.5	+ 13.8	+ 56.6	+ 60.9
Fish:						
Fish (fresh, frozen) ^{2/} " ^{1/}		- .5	- 7.3	+ 27.7	+ 82.2	+ 115.0
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.0	+ 2.2	- .9	+ 5.5	+ 46.5	+ 79.7
*Salmon, red "	40.0	- 1.0	- 4.3	- 1.5	+ 51.5	+ 73.2
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter lb.	49.8	- .4	- .8	- 1.6	+ 31.1	+ 62.2
Cheese "	35.7	- .8	- 1.1	+ 4.1	+ 32.2	+ 44.5
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	0	+ 4.0	+ 20.0	+ 30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	+ .7	+ 7.4	+ 21.8	+ 31.8
Milk, evaporated 14 ¹ / ₂ oz. can	10.0	0	0	+ 12.4	+ 40.8	+ 49.3
EGGS:						
Eggs, fresh ^{2/} doz.	60.2	- 10.0	+ 10.1	+ 9.3	+ 74.1	+ 87.0
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits and vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples lb.	11.1	+ 3.7	+ 2.8	+ 79.0	+ 113.5	+ 152.3
Bananas "	10.4	- 6.3	- 11.1	+ 1.0	+ 57.6	+ 70.5
Oranges doz.	44.5	+ 1.8	+ 9.9	+ 13.8	+ 63.0	+ 41.3
*Grapefruit each	8.6	- 2.3	+ 16.2	- 8.5	^{3/}	^{3/}
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green lb.	23.2	+ 13.2	- 10.4	+ 100.0	+ 65.7	+ 222.2
Cabbage "	7.4	+ 27.6	+ 23.3	+ 89.7	+ 117.6	+ 89.7
Carrots bunch	8.7	- 5.4	- 16.3	+ 26.1	+ 45.0	+ 89.1
Lettuce head	11.8	- 5.6	- 3.3	- 5.6	+ 40.5	+ 40.5
Onions lb.	5.3	+ 6.0	- 31.2	+ 17.8	+ 47.2	+ 47.2
Potatoes 15 lb.	72.0	+ 6.5	+ 12.3	+ 49.1	+ 146.6	+ 109.3
Spinach lb.	11.6	- 2.5	0	+ 8.4	+ 58.9	+ 48.7
Sweetpotatoes "	8.7	+ 8.8	- 17.9	+ 35.9	+ 74.0	+ 58.2
*Beets bunch	9.5	- 2.1	- 1.0	^{4/}	^{4/}	^{4/}
Canned fruits and vegetables:						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches #2 ¹ / ₂ can	27.6	- .7	+ 2.2	+ 15.0	+ 67.3	+ 61.4
Pineapple "	26.6	- .4	- 4.0	- 6.0	+ 27.3	+ 26.7
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.3	- .7	- .7	+ 15.3	^{3/}	^{3/}

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

^{1/} Composite price not computed.

^{2/} Percentage change computed on the index.

^{3/} Priced for the first time in October 1941.

^{4/} Priced for the first time in February 1943.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Percent Change					
	Jan. 16 1945 Average Prices Cents	Dec. 12 1944 to Jan. 16 1945	Jan. 18 1944 to Jan. 16 1945	Sept. 15 1942 to Jan. 16 1945	Jan. 14 1941 to Jan. 16 1945	Aug. 15 1939 to Jan. 16 1945
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)						
Canned vegetables:						
Beans, green #2 can	13.1	0.0	-6.4	- 4.4	✓31.0	✓31.0
Corn "	14.7	0	✓1.4	✓10.5	✓37.4	✓41.3
Peas "	13.3	✓.8	-6.3	- 8.9	✓.8	- 2.2
Tomatoes "	12.0	- .8	-1.6	✓ 3.4	✓42.9	✓39.5
*Soup, vegetable 11 oz. can	13.1	-1.5	- .8	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits & vegetables:						
Dried fruits:						
Prunes lb.	17.2	✓1.2	✓1.2	✓16.2	✓79.2	✓95.5
Dried vegetables:						
Navy beans lb.	11.2	✓.9	✓6.7	✓23.1	✓72.3	✓93.1
*Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle oz.	3.6	-2.7	-2.7	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:						
Coffee lb.	30.3	0	✓1.7	✓5.6	✓46.4	✓35.9
Tea $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	24.1	✓.4	✓2.6	✓7.6	✓36.9	✓40.1
*Cocoa $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	10.2	-1.9	✓5.2	0	✓12.1	✓18.6
FATS AND OILS:						
Lard lb.	18.8	0	0	✓8.7	✓102.2	✓89.9
Shortening other than lard:						
In cartons lb.	20.1	- .5	✓.5	✓3.1	✓77.9	✓71.8
In other containers "	24.7	- .4	- .4	✓1.2	✓35.0	✓22.3
Salad dressing pt.	25.7	- .4	✓.8	✓2.0	✓27.9	<u>2/</u>
Oleomargarine lb.	24.1	- .4	✓.4	✓7.6	✓54.5	✓46.1
Peanut butter "	28.4	✓.4	-1.7	✓2.2	✓58.7	✓58.7
*Oil, cooking or salad pt.	30.1	-2.0	-2.0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:						
Sugar lb.	6.7	0	-1.5	-2.9	✓31.4	✓28.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.8	0	- .6	✓4.6	✓16.2	✓15.3
*Molasses 18 oz.	15.5	-2.5	-2.5	✓4.0	✓15.7	✓14.0
*Apple butter 16 oz.	13.2	-2.2	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935 - 39=100					Percent Change				
	Jan. 16	Dec. 12	Jan. 18	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Dec. 12	Jan. 18	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	
	1945 <u>2/</u>	1944	1944	1942	1941	1944 to Jan. 16 1945	1944 to Jan. 16 1945	1942 to Jan. 16 1945	1941 to Jan. 16 1945	
United States	137.3	137.4	136.1	126.6	97.8	-0.1	+0.9	+8.5	+40.4	
New England:										
Boston	132.8	132.7	130.9	124.4	95.2	+ .1	+1.5	+6.8	+39.5	
Bridgeport	134.2	134.6	135.1	127.1	96.5	- .3	- .7	+5.6	+39.1	
Fall River	132.5	132.2	131.2	125.7	97.5	+ .2	+1.0	+5.4	+35.9	
Manchester	134.0	133.6	132.5	126.8	96.6	+ .3	+1.1	+5.7	+38.7	
New Haven	135.1	135.3	136.3	126.2	95.7	- .1	- .9	+7.1	+41.2	
Portland, Maine	132.4	133.1	132.3	125.8	95.3	- .5	+ .1	+5.2	+38.9	
Providence	135.6	135.7	132.0	126.3	96.3	- .1	+2.7	+7.4	+40.8	
Middle Atlantic:										
Buffalo	135.5	134.1	135.0	127.6	100.2	+1.0	+ .4	+6.2	+35.2	
Newark	140.0	140.2	140.7	128.0	98.8	- .1	- .5	+9.4	+41.7	
New York	138.7	138.7	138.0	125.2	99.5	0	+ .5	+10.8	+39.4	
Philadelphia	135.1	135.0	135.0	123.9	95.0	+ .1	+ .1	+9.0	+42.2	
Pittsburgh	136.4	136.1	134.6	125.9	98.0	+ .2	+1.3	+8.3	+39.2	
Rochester	134.3	134.0	131.5	125.2	99.9	+ .2	+2.1	+7.3	+34.4	
Scranton	137.2	137.2	134.7	125.6	97.5	0	+1.9	+9.2	+40.7	
East North Central:										
Chicago	135.3	136.5	132.5	124.9	98.2	- .9	+2.1	+8.3	+37.8	
Cincinnati	135.5	134.7	135.1	126.9	96.5	+ .6	+ .3	+6.8	+40.4	
Cleveland	140.8	140.6	140.8	127.3	99.2	+ .1	0	+10.6	+41.9	
Columbus, Ohio	129.5	129.4	128.1	119.6	93.4	+ .1	+1.1	+8.3	+38.7	
Detroit	132.4	132.7	132.8	124.7	97.0	- .2	- .3	+6.2	+36.5	
Indianapolis	134.2	133.8	133.3	127.1	98.2	+ .3	+ .7	+5.6	+36.7	
Milwaukee	135.2	135.2	130.5	121.0	95.9	0	+3.6	+11.7	+41.0	
Peoria	140.0	140.5	138.4	130.7	99.0	- .4	+1.2	+7.1	+41.4	
Springfield, Ill.	142.7	142.0	138.7	130.2	96.2	+ .5	+2.9	+9.6	+48.3	
West North Central:										
Cedar Rapids <u>4/</u>	140.7	139.9	137.6	121.2	95.9	+ .6	+2.3	+16.1	+46.7	
Kansas City	131.6	131.0	130.3	120.7	92.4	+ .5	+1.0	+9.0	+42.4	
Minneapolis	130.7	130.4	128.3	123.3	99.0	+ .2	+1.9	+6.0	+32.0	
Omaha	130.6	130.0	131.1	123.2	97.9	+ .5	- .4	+6.0	+33.4	
St. Louis	140.3	139.5	137.9	126.7	99.2	+ .6	+1.7	+10.7	+41.4	
St. Paul	129.6	129.1	127.1	120.8	98.6	+ .4	+2.0	+7.3	+31.4	
Wichita <u>4/</u>	148.0	147.3	146.1	132.0	97.2	+ .5	+1.3	+12.1	+52.3	

See footnotes at end of table.

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Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39=100					Percent Change			
	Jan. 16	Dec. 12	Jan. 18	Sept. 15	Jan. 14	Dec. 12	Jan. 18	Sept. 15	Jan. 14
	1945	1944	1944	1942	1941	1944	1944	1942	1941
	2/					to Jan. 16 1945	to Jan. 16 1945	to Jan. 16 1945	to Jan. 16 1945
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	139.7	138.8	138.0	125.9	94.3	+0.6	+1.2	+11.0	+48.1
Baltimore	145.2	143.9	142.5	131.2	97.9	+ .9	+1.9	+11.7	+48.3
Charleston, S.C.	134.3	139.0	134.2	126.6	95.9	- .5	+ .1	+ 6.1	+40.0
Jacksonville	146.3	146.8	145.8	134.2	98.8	- .3	+ .3	+ 9.0	+48.1
Norfolk 3/	145.0	143.2	145.1	131.9	95.8	+1.3	- .1	+ 9.9	+51.4
Richmond	136.5	137.1	134.7	126.2	93.7	- .4	+1.3	+ 8.2	+45.7
Savannah	150.9	150.5	151.1	133.3	100.5	+ .3	- .1	+13.2	+50.1
Washington, D.C.	138.0	137.1	136.4	128.1	97.7	+ .7	+1.2	+ 7.7	+41.2
Winston-Salem 4/	139.7	138.7	136.9	119.8	93.7	+ .7	+2.0	+16.6	+49.1
East South Central:									
Birmingham	142.8	142.3	140.6	125.3	96.0	+ .4	+1.6	+14.0	+48.8
Jackson 4/	152.9	151.3	142.9	141.0	105.3	+1.1	+7.0	+ 8.4	+45.2
Knoxville 4/	160.2	158.3	154.3	134.2	97.1	+1.2	+3.8	+19.4	+65.0
Louisville	131.9	132.0	132.6	124.2	95.5	- .1	- .5	+ 6.2	+38.1
Memphis	147.1	145.6	146.0	129.7	94.2	+1.0	+ .8	+13.4	+56.2
Mobile	143.8	144.6	145.5	133.9	97.9	- .6	-1.2	+ 7.4	+46.9
West South Central:									
Dallas	133.7	133.4	134.5	123.7	92.6	+ .2	- .6	+ 8.1	+44.4
Houston	136.5	135.9	137.5	130.8	102.6	+ .4	- .7	+ 4.4	+33.0
Little Rock	137.3	137.0	134.7	129.2	95.6	+ .2	+1.9	+ 6.3	+43.6
New Orleans	150.6	150.3	149.9	135.9	101.9	+ .2	+ .5	+10.8	+47.8
Mountain:									
Butte	134.8	134.3	135.3	124.6	98.7	+ .4	- .4	+ 8.2	+36.6
Denver	137.8	137.9	136.0	126.8	94.8	- .1	+1.3	+ 8.7	+45.4
Salt Lake City	140.4	141.9	138.6	130.1	97.5	-1.1	+1.3	+ 7.9	+44.0
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	143.4	143.9	142.0	137.9	101.8	- .3	+1.0	+ 4.0	+40.9
Portland, Oreg.	147.0	148.1	142.5	141.2	101.7	- .7	+3.2	+ 4.1	+44.5
San Francisco	146.9	149.1	143.6	133.5	99.6	-1.5	+2.3	+10.0	+47.5
Seattle	143.4	143.9	142.5	137.3	101.0	- .3	+ .6	+ 4.4	+42.0

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

4/ June 1940 equals 100.

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March 22, 1945
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD - FEBRUARY 1945

The BLS index indicates average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, bought by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. The items covered represented 70 percent of the expenditures of families who had incomes ranging from \$1250 to \$2000 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods and forced changes in housing and eating away from home.

It does not measure changes in total "living costs" -- that is, in the total amount families spend for living. Income taxes and bond subscriptions are not included.

For a description of the methods used in computing the index, ask for "Description of the Cost of Living Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics." For an appraisal of the factors enumerated above, see the report of the President's Committee on the Cost of Living, November 17, 1944.

There were only minor changes in retail prices of most staples purchased by moderate-income city families during the month ending February 15, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins announced today. "The continued decline in egg prices, normal for this season of the year," she said, "was the chief cause of a decrease of 0.6 percent in average food prices and 0.2 percent in prices of living essentials.

"The Bureau of Labor Statistics cost of living index for February 15, 1945, is 126.8 percent of the 1935-39 average, and 2.4 percent above the level of one year ago.

"Prices of the family food budget, excluding eggs, were comparatively stable. Prices were higher for onions, spinach, potatoes and sweet potatoes, while lettuce, oranges, green beans and cabbage prices were lower, as new crop shipments reached retail markets and 'disaster' ceilings were removed from some crops. On the average, fresh fruit and vegetable prices declined slightly. Eggs, which represent about $6\frac{1}{2}$ percent of the average family's food costs, dropped seasonally by 9.7 percent during the month, and are expected to show a further decline in March.

"Clothing prices rose 0.2 percent between mid-January and mid-February with scattered advances for costs of many clothing articles, resulting from continued short supplies of medium and low-priced merchandise. Women's percale housedresses, and rayon underwear and men's cotton socks and woolen suits showed the largest cost increases over the month.

"Housefurnishings prices rose slightly (0.1 percent) due to scattered increases in prices of bedroom furniture, gas stoves, wool rugs, and sheets. February furniture sales this year were not as widespread as usual. Housefurnishings indexes for February reflects in some cities, in addition to the price movement of the month, a downward adjustment of costs of some goods of pre-war quality, especially spring-filled living room furniture. These adjustments were based on additional price information which has become available as these goods have moved into retail stores in greater volume than at any other time since their reappearance early in 1944.

"Higher coal prices caused an 0.3 percent rise over the month in average prices of the fuel, electricity and ice group. Retail coal and coke dealers restricted to one-ton deliveries by order of the Solid Fuels Administrator for War, in February were permitted by OPA to raise their delivery prices 25 cents a ton in cases where this price differential had not been previously charged.

"Miscellaneous goods and services remained practically unchanged (up 0.1 percent). Charges for haircuts were raised in two cities and cigarettes cost more in two cities as customers could no longer buy more than one package at a time.

"Rents were not surveyed in February."

Table 1

Report for February 15, 1945

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COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0*

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
1939: August 15	98.6	93.5	100.3	104.3	97.5	100.6	100.4
1941: January 15	100.8	97.8	100.7	105.0	100.8	100.1	101.9
1942: May 15	116.0	121.6	126.2	109.9	104.9	122.2	110.9
1943: May 15	125.1	143.0	127.9	108.0	107.6	125.1	115.3
1944: February 15	123.8	134.5	135.2	108.1	110.3	128.7	118.7
1945: January 15	127.1	137.3	143.0	<u>1/</u>	109.7	143.6	123.1
February 15	126.8	136.5	143.3	<u>1/</u>	110.0	143.8	123.2

Table 1a

PERCENT OF CHANGE

Date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent <u>2/</u>	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Jan. 15, 1945 to Feb. 15, 1945	- 0.2	- 0.6	+ 0.2	<u>1/</u>	+ 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Feb. 15, 1944 to Feb. 15, 1945	+ 2.4	+ 1.5	+ 6.0	+ 0.2	- 0.3	+11.7	+ 3.8
May 15, 1943 to Feb. 15, 1945	+ 1.4	- 4.5	+12.0	+ 0.3	+ 2.2	+14.9	+ 6.9
May 15, 1942 to Feb. 15, 1945	+ 9.3	+12.3	+13.5	- 1.5	+ 4.9	+17.7	+11.1
Jan. 15, 1941 to Feb. 15, 1945	+25.8	+39.6	+42.3	+ 3.1	+ 9.1	+43.7	+20.9
Aug. 15, 1939 to Feb. 15, 1945	+28.6	+46.0	+42.9	+ 3.8	+12.8	+42.9	+22.7

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed in January and February.

2/ Changes through December 15, 1944.

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COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent of Change between Jan. 15, 1945 and Feb. 15, 1945 by Groups*

Region and City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House-furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	-0.2 <u>1/</u>	-0.6 <u>2/</u>	+0.2 <u>3/</u>	+0.3 <u>4/</u>	+0.1 <u>3/</u>	+0.1 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	-0.2	-0.5	+0.2	+0.3	-0.2	0
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	+0.2	+0.6	+0.4	+0.2	-3.2 <u>7/</u>	0
New York	-0.4	-1.0	+0.1	+0.3	+0.1	0
Philadelphia	+0.4	+0.6	+0.4	+1.1	+0.9	0
Pittsburgh	-0.1	-0.6	+0.5	0	+2.4	0
East North Central:						
Chicago	-0.2	-0.6	+0.1	0	-2.3 <u>7/</u>	0
Cincinnati	-0.3	-0.7	+0.8	0	-3.3 <u>7/</u>	0
Cleveland	-0.2	-0.5	+0.2	+0.2	+1.1	0
Detroit	+0.1	-0.5	+0.1	+0.4	+5.4	0
West North Central:						
Kansas City	-0.1	-0.8	+0.6	0	0	+0.4
Minneapolis	0	-0.8	+1.4	0	+1.9	0
St. Louis	-0.3 <u>5/</u>	-0.6 <u>5/</u>	0	+0.1	-1.3 <u>7/</u>	0
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	+0.2	0	+0.1	+0.4	0	+0.4
Savannah	+0.2 <u>6/</u>	+0.1 <u>6/</u>	+0.2	0	+0.6	+0.5
Washington, D. C.	-0.1	-0.4	0	+0.6	+0.3	+0.1
East South Central:						
Birmingham	-0.6	-1.5	+0.2	+0.1	-0.6 <u>7/</u>	-0.1
West South Central:						
Houston	-0.2	-0.8	0	0	-0.1 <u>7/</u>	0
Mountain:						
Denver	-0.2	-0.7	+0.4	0	+0.4	0
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	-0.4	-1.1	+0.1	0	+2.6	0
San Francisco	-0.6	-1.1	0	0	-6.5 <u>7/</u>	0
Seattle	-0.3	-0.8	+0.4	+0.1	-0.5 <u>7/</u>	0

* These percent changes are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed in February.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest 15th of the month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

5/ Indexes for Jan. 15, 1945 revised: All items 125.5; Food 140.0.

6/ Indexes for Jan. 15, 1945 revised: All items 134.8; Food 150.7.

7/ Revised, due to downward adjustment for some housefurnishings of pre-war quality, based on additional information obtained after reappearance of these goods in retail markets in 1944.

Table 3

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Report for February 15, 1945

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Percent Changes Since August 1939, January 1941 and Other Specified Dates*

Region and City	Feb. 15, 1944 to Feb. 15, 1945	Aug. 15, 1939 to Feb. 15, 1945	Jan. 1, 1941 to Feb. 15, 1945	May 15, 1942 to Feb. 15, 1945	May 15, 1943 to Feb. 15, 1945
Average: Large Cities	+2.4	+28.6	+25.8	+ 9.3	+ 1.4
New England:					
Boston	+2.4	+27.0	+24.4	+ 8.7	+ 0.8
Middle Atlantic:					
Buffalo	+2.1	+29.5	+25.2	+ 5.9	- 0.9
New York	+2.6	+28.7	+26.1	+12.4	+ 2.6
Philadelphia	+2.8	+29.2	+27.4	+10.2	+ 1.3
Pittsburgh	+3.2	+30.1	+26.5	+10.5	+ 2.5
East North Central:					
Chicago	+2.7	+27.3	+24.1	+ 7.8	+ 0.9
Cincinnati	+2.6	+30.1	+27.1	+ 9.2	+ 2.3
Cleveland	+1.4	+29.6	+27.1	+ 9.1	+ 1.2
Detroit	+2.5	+29.4	+26.2	+ 7.3	+ 0.2
West North Central:					
Kansas City	+2.5	+26.8	+27.0	+ 9.6	+ 2.0
Minneapolis	+1.7	+23.6	+21.0	+ 6.3	+ 1.1
St. Louis	+2.3	+27.5	+23.9	+ 8.2	+ 0.9
South Atlantic:					
Baltimore	+3.5	+31.6	+29.0	+ 9.9	+ 1.3
Savannah	+2.2	+36.1	+33.2	+11.7	+ 2.4
Washington, D. C.	+2.5	+27.8	+26.1	+ 9.9	+ 1.9
East South Central:					
Birmingham	+2.7	+32.5	+28.4	+ 9.9	+ 3.7
West South Central:					
Houston	+1.5	+23.9	+22.4	+ 7.4	+ 0.3
Mountain:					
Denver	+2.7	+27.7	+25.9	+ 8.9	+ 1.2
Pacific:					
Los Angeles	+2.2	+28.0	+25.5	+ 8.9	+ 2.2
San Francisco	+3.3	+32.1	+28.9	+11.6	+ 2.4
Seattle	+2.3	+30.2	+27.9	+ 7.8	+ 0.8

* These percents of change are based on indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0*

Region and city	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, electricity and ice	House furnishings	Mis-cellaneous
Average: Large Cities	126.8 <u>1/</u>	136.5 <u>2/</u>	143.3 <u>3/</u>	110.0 <u>4/</u>	143.8 <u>3/</u>	123.2 <u>3/</u>
New England:						
Boston	123.3	132.1	140.1	120.6	139.2	117.4
Middle Atlantic:						
Buffalo	127.6	136.3	140.8	107.1	138.3 <u>5/</u>	125.7
New York	127.4	137.3	148.8	114.3	136.5	125.7
Philadelphia	126.4	135.9	144.6	110.5	142.6	120.5
Pittsburgh	128.0	135.6	165.9	112.0	142.9	119.6
East North Central:						
Chicago	125.6	134.5	137.8	105.2	138.6 <u>5/</u>	121.6
Cincinnati	126.6	134.6	144.9	106.2	141.0 <u>5/</u>	125.0
Cleveland	129.6	140.1	144.2	112.4	143.5	122.3
Detroit	127.5	131.7	141.1	112.8	154.3	129.4
West North Central:						
Kansas City	125.0	130.6	143.4	110.2	130.1	125.9
Minneapolis	123.2	129.7	140.0	102.6	138.3	122.4
St. Louis	125.1	139.1	139.6	107.3	124.6 <u>5/</u>	119.3
South Atlantic:						
Baltimore	129.9	145.2	147.5	109.1	148.4	122.0
Savannah	135.1	150.9	143.6	111.9	146.8	129.9
Washington, D. C.	126.0	137.4	150.1	109.5	140.2	126.8
East South Central:						
Birmingham	130.5	140.6	141.2	104.8	139.9 <u>5/</u>	125.0
West South Central:						
Houston	124.8	135.4	138.7	91.1	138.2 <u>5/</u>	123.2
Mountain:						
Denver	125.9	136.9	135.4	104.2	152.5	122.1
Pacific:						
Los Angeles	128.6	141.8	140.8	92.5	143.1	125.3
San Francisco	131.2	145.3	141.8	92.6	129.8 <u>5/</u>	131.3
Seattle	130.6	142.2	142.3	103.8	140.3 <u>5/</u>	131.2

* These indexes are based on changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities.

1/ Rents not surveyed in February.

2/ Based on prices for 56 cities collected on Tuesday nearest the 15th of month.

3/ Based on data for 21 cities.

4/ Based on data for 34 cities.

5/ Revised, due to downward adjustment for some housefurnishings of pre-war quality, based on additional information obtained after the reappearance of these goods in retail markets in 1944.

Table 5. Retail Food Costs in Large Cities Combined ^{1/}
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

Commodity Group	1945		1944	1943	1941	1939
	2/ Feb. 13	3/ Jan. 16	Feb. 15	May 18	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
All Foods	136.5	137.3	134.5	143.0	97.8	93.5
Cereals and bakery products	108.7	108.7	108.1	107.6	94.9	93.4
Meats	130.7	130.2	130.5	138.3	101.1	95.7
Beef and veal	118.4	118.4	119.3	131.2	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.5	112.5	112.5	125.5	86.1	88.0
Lamb	135.5	135.5	133.9	141.6	98.7	98.8
Chickens	152.9	152.2	149.9	147.6	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh and canned	215.2	210.1	217.1	200.5	118.7	99.6
Dairy Products	133.5	133.5	133.5	136.9	105.1	93.1
Eggs	153.1	169.6	142.5	142.1	97.4	90.7
Fruits and vegetables	168.9	168.9	163.0	190.8	93.3	92.4
Fresh	177.8	177.9 ^{3/}	170.7	205.8	93.4	92.8
Canned	129.8	129.7	129.8	131.1	91.4	91.6
Dried	167.0	166.9	163.1	158.0	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.5	124.4	124.3	124.5	90.9	94.9
Fats and oils	123.5	123.4	123.8	126.3	80.3	84.5
Sugar and sweets	126.3	126.3 ^{3/}	126.6	127.6	95.3	95.6

^{1/} The number of cities included in the index was changed from 51 to 56 in March 1943, with the necessary adjustments for maintaining comparability. At the same time the number of foods in the index was increased from 54 to 61.

^{2/} Preliminary.

^{3/} Revised.

Table 5-A. Percent Change

Commodity Group	Jan. 16	Feb. 15	May 18	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1945 to	1944 to	1943 to	1941 to	1939 to
	Feb. 13	Feb. 13	Feb. 13	Feb. 13	Feb. 13
	1945	1945	1945	1945	1945
All Foods	- 0.6	/ 1.5	- 4.5	/ 39.6	/ 46.0
Cereals and bakery products	0	/ 0.6	/ 1.0	/ 14.5	/ 16.4
Meats	/ 0.4	/ 0.2	- 5.5	/ 29.3	/ 36.6
Beef and veal	0	- 0.8	- 9.8	/ 8.2	/ 18.9
Pork	0	0	- 10.4	/ 30.7	/ 27.8
Lamb	0	/ 1.2	- 4.3	/ 37.3	/ 37.1
Chickens	/ 0.5	/ 2.0	/ 3.6	/ 57.3	/ 61.6
Fish, fresh and canned	/ 2.4	- 0.9	/ 7.3	/ 81.3	/ 116.1
Dairy Products	0	0	- 2.5	/ 27.0	/ 43.4
Eggs	- 9.7	/ 7.4	/ 7.7	/ 57.2	/ 68.8
Fruits and vegetables	0	/ 3.6	- 11.5	/ 81.0	/ 82.8
Fresh	- 0.1	/ 4.2	- 13.6	/ 90.4	/ 91.6
Canned	/ 0.1	0	- 1.0	/ 42.0	/ 41.7
Dried	/ 0.1	/ 2.4	/ 5.7	/ 67.7	/ 84.9
Beverages	/ 0.1	/ 0.2	0	/ 37.0	/ 31.2
Fats and oils	/ 0.1	- 0.2	- 2.2	/ 53.8	/ 46.2
Sugar and sweets	0	- 0.2	- 1.0	/ 32.5	/ 32.1

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods

Region and City	Percent Change - Jan. 16, 1945 to Feb. 13, 1945								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
United States	-0.6	0.0	/0.4	0.0	- 9.7	0.0	/0.1	/0.1	0.0
New England:									
Boston	-0.5	0	/0.2	0	- 8.6	-0.1	0	/0.1	/0.1
Bridgeport	-0.5	/0.1	/0.5	0	- 6.6	-0.6	/0.1	-0.3	0
Fall River	-0.5	0	/0.7	0	- 5.7	-0.9	0	0	-0.4
Manchester	-0.4	0	/0.2	-0.2	- 6.2	/0.2	0	0	-0.5
New Haven	-0.3	-0.1	/0.7	0	- 9.2	/0.8	0	-0.2	-0.2
Portland, Me.	/0.1	0	/0.4	-0.1	- 4.4	/1.8	0	-0.2	0
Providence	-0.8	/0.1	/0.2	0	- 9.3	-1.0	0	-0.4	/0.1
Middle Atlantic:									
Buffalo	/0.6	/0.1	/0.1	0	- 7.7	/4.3	/3.9	0	-0.4
Newark	-1.2	0	-0.1	0	-10.5	-1.8	/0.4	+0.3	-0.1
New York	-1.0	/0.1	/0.1	/0.1	- 9.5	-1.5	-0.1	0	-0.7
Philadelphia	/0.6	0	/0.9	0	-10.8	/5.0	-0.2	0	/0.3
Pittsburgh	-0.6	0	/0.2	0	- 8.5	-0.1	-0.2	/0.1	-0.3
Rechester	-0.2	/0.2	0	/0.1	- 8.6	/2.0	/0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Scranton	-0.2	/0.5	/0.4	/0.1	- 7.2	/0.6	0	/1.1	0
East North Central:									
Chicago	-0.6	/0.1	/0.6	0	- 9.8	-0.5	0	0	-0.1
Cincinnati	-0.7	0	/0.4	0	-11.1	-0.1	0	0	0
Cleveland	-0.5	0	/0.6	/0.1	- 9.1	-0.1	/0.2	/0.4	-0.1
Columbus, Ohio	-0.5	0	0	0	- 8.5	/1.2	-0.1	0	-0.2
Detroit	-0.5	/0.1	/0.1	0	- 9.1	-0.2	/0.1	/0.8	/0.5
Indianapolis	-1.0	0	/0.2	0	- 9.5	-1.4	0	-0.2	0
Milwaukee	-1.0	0	/0.4	-0.1	- 8.2	-2.6	/0.2	-0.2	-0.8
Peoria	/0.1	-0.1	/0.5	-0.1	- 9.6	/1.9	-0.2	-0.3	/0.6
Springfield, Ill.	-0.6	/0.1	/0.2	0	-15.0	/0.3	0	-0.1	/0.9
West North Central:									
Cedar Rapids	-0.9	0	/0.1	-0.2	-10.0	-0.5	/0.7	-0.5	/1.1
Kansas City	-0.8	0	/0.9	0	-10.6	-0.2	0	/0.1	-0.2
Minneapolis	-0.8	/0.1	-0.1	/0.1	- 9.0	-0.4	0	-0.1	/0.2
Omaha	-0.7	0	/0.2	-0.1	- 8.9	-0.1	0	0	0
St. Louis	-0.6	-0.1	/0.2	0	-12.8	/0.8	/0.2	0	0
St. Paul	-0.6	/0.1	-0.1	/0.1	- 8.3	/0.3	0	/0.1	0
Wichita	-0.5	-0.2	/0.1	0	- 9.2	/0.9	-0.6	-0.4	-0.2

Table 6 - Retail Food Costs in Large Cities
by Groups of Foods (Cont'd)

Region and City	Percent Change - Jan. 16, 1945 to Feb. 13, 1945								
	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- erages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
South Atlantic:									
Atlanta	-1.4	-0.2	/0.1	/0.1	-11.2	-2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Baltimore	0	/0.1	/1.0	-0.2	-10.2	/1.4	-0.1	/0.1	-0.1
Charleston, S.C.	-0.3	/0.2	/0.5	-0.2	-8.5	/0.2	0	/0.1	0
Jacksonville	-1.0	0	-0.1	0	-11.4	-0.2	-0.4	/0.1	/0.9
Norfolk	-0.7	0	-0.1	/0.1	-8.0	-0.8	0	/0.2	0
Richmond	-1.1	/0.1	/0.6	0	-10.3	-1.5	-0.1	/0.3	0
Savannah	/0.1	/0.2	/1.0	/0.1	-10.5	/1.7	-0.2	/0.2	/0.6
Washington, D.C.	-0.4	-0.1	/2.0	-0.3	-10.1	-1.3	/0.1	-0.1	0
Winston-Salem	-1.1	-0.1	/0.5	/0.3	-15.8	-0.5	/0.1	/0.2	/0.3
East South Central:									
Birmingham	-1.5	0	-0.4	-0.1	-10.3	-1.2	0	/0.1	-0.1
Jackson	-1.8	-0.2	-0.3	/0.1	-18.9	-2.3	/0.4	/0.1	0
Knoxville	-1.2	-0.2	/0.6	0	-12.1	-1.4	0	-0.1	0
Louisville	-1.4	0	/0.1	0	-10.3	-2.6	0	-0.1	-0.3
Memphis	-1.2	/0.4	/0.9	/0.1	-10.7	-2.3	0	/1.2	/0.2
Mobile	0	0	0	-0.1	-6.8	/2.4	-0.1	0	0
West South Central:									
Dallas	-0.6	/2.3	0	0	-11.2	-1.3	0	-0.2	/0.1
Houston	-0.8	0	/0.2	0	-12.5	0	/0.4	-0.1	/0.1
Little Rock	-0.6	0	/0.1	/0.1	-7.8	-0.5	-0.2	-0.4	0
New Orleans	-0.4	/0.3	/0.9	0	-8.7	-1.0	/0.2	-0.1	/0.1
Mountain:									
Butte	-1.2	-0.3	0	0	-17.2	/0.1	0	-0.5	0
Denver	-0.7	/0.1	/0.1	/0.2	-4.8	-1.5	-0.2	0	/0.1
Salt Lake City	-0.5	/0.1	/0.1	0	-8.6	/0.5	0	/0.3	0
Pacific:									
Los Angeles	-1.1	/0.1	0	-0.1	-10.8	-0.8	/0.1	/0.1	/0.1
Portland, Oreg.	-0.4	-0.4	/0.4	-0.2	-8.7	/0.8	0	/0.3	0
San Francisco	-1.1	-0.1	0	-0.2	-9.0	-0.7	/0.4	-0.1	/0.1
Seattle	-0.8	0	0	-0.1	-8.8	0	/0.2	-0.2	-0.4

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined

Commodity		Percent Change					
		Feb. 13	Jan. 16	Feb. 15	May 16	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
		1945	1945 to	1944 to	1943 to	1941 to	1939 to
		Average	Feb. 13	Feb. 13	Feb. 13	Feb. 13	Feb. 13
		Prices	1945	1945	1945	1945	1945
		Cents					
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.2	0	- 1.4	+ 5.6	+55.1	+79.3
Macaroni	lb.	15.7	0	+ 1.3	+ 2.6	+13.8	+12.1
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.1	-0.4	- 0.9	- 2.5	- 1.7	- 4.5
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.5	0	0	- 4.4	- 8.5	- 7.1
Corn meal	lb.	6.4	0	+ 8.5	+14.3	+52.4	+60.0
*Rice	"	12.8	0	0	+ 0.8	+62.0	+70.7
Rollled oats	"	10.2	0	+17.2	+17.2	+43.7	+43.7
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	12.3	0	+ 3.4	+16.0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	0	0	- 1.1	+12.8	+12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.6	0	- 1.0	- 2.0	+10.3	+ 9.1
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	- 1.0	0	+10.0	+ 7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	28.8	0	- 0.3	- 1.0	+14.7	<u>2/</u>
Soda crackers	"	18.9	0	+ 0.5	+ 6.2	+26.0	+27.7
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	40.5	0	- 3.6	-13.5	+ 4.9	+11.3
Rib roast	"	32.8	0	- 3.2	-13.0	+ 4.1	+13.5
Chuck roast	"	28.0	-0.4	- 4.4	-11.9	+11.1	+24.4
*Stew meat	"	29.9	-0.7	- 6.0	-14.6	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Liver	"	37.3	0	- 0.5	- 0.5	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Hamburger	"	27.5	+0.4	- 3.8	-14.6	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	44.2	-0.7	- 3.9	-13.8	- 2.2	+ 4.0
*Roast, boned and rolled	"	35.3	-0.6	- 0.8	- 6.4	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Pork:							
Chops	"	37.2	-0.3	- 0.5	-11.2	+27.8	+20.4
Bacon, sliced	"	41.0	+0.2	- 0.5	-10.3	+36.2	+34.9
Ham, sliced	"	49.9	-0.2	- 3.1	-15.9	+10.6	+ 7.5
Ham, whole	"	35.2	-0.3	- 0.8	-11.6	+34.4	+28.5
Salt pork	"	22.3	+0.5	- 0.9	- 9.7	+33.5	+44.8
*Liver	"	22.0	-0.5	- 0.9	- 6.8	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Sausage	"	38.3	+0.3	- 0.5	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
*Bologna	"	33.9	+0.9	- 1.7	+ 0.3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Lamb:							
Leg	"	39.8	-0.3	- 0.7	- 4.8	+43.2	+44.2
Rib chops	"	45.2	-0.4	- 0.2	- 7.0	+29.1	+23.2

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Percent Change					
	Feb. 13 1945	Jan. 16 1945 to Feb. 13 1945	Feb. 15 1944 to Feb. 13 1945	May 18 1943 to Feb. 13 1945	Jan. 14 1941 to Feb. 13 1945	Aug. 15 1939 to Feb. 13 1945
	Average Prices Cents					
MEATS: (Continued)						
Poultry:						
Roasting chickens <u>2/</u> lb.	45.6	+ 0.5	+ 2.0	+ 3.6	+ 57.3	+ 61.6
Fish:						
Fish (fresh, frozen) <u>2/</u> "	<u>1/</u>	+ 2.8	- 1.0	+ 8.2	+ 87.3	+121.1
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.5	+ 2.2	- 2.1	- 2.1	+ 49.7	+ 83.6
*Salmon, red "	40.5	+ 0.5	- 4.9	- 2.2	+ 53.4	+ 75.3
DAIRY PRODUCTS:						
Butter lb.	49.9	+ 0.2	- 0.6	-10.3	+ 31.3	+ 62.5
Cheese "	35.5	- 0.6	- 1.1	- 7.6	+ 31.5	+ 43.7
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	0	0	+ 20.0	+ 30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	+ 0.7	+ 0.7	+ 21.8	+ 31.8
Milk, evaporated <u>1 1/2</u> oz. can	10.0	0	0	- 1.0	+ 40.8	+ 49.3
EGGS:						
Eggs, fresh <u>2/</u> doz.	54.4	- 0.7	+ 7.4	+ 7.7	+ 57.2	+ 68.8
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:						
Fresh fruits and vegetables:						
Fresh fruits:						
Apples lb.	11.2	+ 0.9	0	-13.2	+115.4	+154.5
Bananas "	10.3	- 1.0	-10.4	-12.0	+ 56.1	+ 68.9
Oranges doz.	43.9	- 1.3	+16.8	+ 4.0	+ 60.8	+ 39.4
*Grapefruit ea.	8.8	0	+27.5	+12.8	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Fresh vegetables:						
Beans, green lb.	20.5	-11.6	-12.4	+17.8	+ 46.4	+184.7
Cabbage "	6.4	-13.5	+10.3	-44.3	+ 88.2	+ 64.1
Carrots bunch	8.7	0	- 3.3	+ 6.1	+ 45.0	+ 89.1
Lettuce head	10.6	-10.2	- 6.2	-35.8	+ 26.2	+ 26.2
Onions lb.	5.9	+11.3	-27.2	-31.4	+ 63.9	+ 63.9
Potatoes 15 lb.	75.3	+ 4.6	+15.7	-18.6	+157.9	+118.9
Spinach lb.	12.7	+ 9.5	+21.0	+ 9.5	+ 74.0	+ 62.8
Sweetpotatoes "	9.0	+ 2.3	-16.7	-49.7	+ 80.0	+ 63.6
*Beets bunch	9.3	- 4.1	+ 3.3	-19.8	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>
Canned fruits and vegetables:						
Canned fruits:						
Peaches #2 <u>1/2</u> can	27.7	+ 0.4	+ 1.8	+ 4.5	+ 67.9	+ 62.0
Pineapple "	26.4	- 0.8	- 4.3	- 8.0	+ 26.3	+ 25.7
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	+ 0.7	0	+ 2.9	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Composite price not computed.

2/ Percentage change computed on the index.

3/ Priced for the first time in October 1941.

4/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

Table 7 - Average Retail Prices of Foods in Large Cities Combined (Cont'd)

Commodity	Percent Change					
	Feb. 13	Jan. 16	Feb. 15	May 18	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1945	1945 to	1944 to	1943 to	1941 to	1939 to
	Average	Feb. 13	Feb. 13	Feb. 13	Feb. 13	Feb. 13
	Prices	1945	1945	1945	1945	1945
	Cents					
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)						
Canned vegetables:						
Beans, green #2 can	13.1	0	- 5.1	-12.7	+ 31.0	+31.0
Corn "	14.8	+ 0.7	+ 2.1	+ 5.7	+ 38.3	+42.3
Peas "	13.3	0	- 4.3	-14.2	+ 0.8	- 2.2
Tomatoes "	12.0	0	- 0.8	- 6.2	+ 42.9	+39.5
*Soup, vegetable 11oz. can	13.4	0	+ 0.8	+ 2.3	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Dried fruits & vegetables:						
Dried fruits:						
Prunes 1b.	17.2	0	+ 3.6	+ 4.9	+ 79.2	+95.5
Dried vegetables:						
Navy beans 1b.	11.2	0	+ 5.7	+12.0	+ 72.3	+93.1
*Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle oz.	3.7	0	0	0	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
BEVERAGES:						
Coffee 1b.	30.3	0	+ 1.7	+ 1.0	+ 46.4	+35.9
Tea $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.	24.1	0	+ 2.1	+12.1	+ 36.9	+40.1
*Cocoa $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	10.3	0	+ 4.0	+12.0	+ 13.2	+19.8
FATS AND OILS:						
Lard 1b.	18.8	0	0	- 1.6	+102.2	+89.9
Shortening other than lard:						
In cartons 1b.	20.1	0	0	- 0.5	+ 77.9	+71.8
In other containers "	24.7	0	- 0.4	+ 1.6	+ 35.0	+22.3
Salad dressing pt.	25.6	- 0.4	+ 0.4	+ 1.6	+ 27.4	<u>2/</u>
Oleomargarine 1b.	24.1	0	0	+ 2.6	+ 54.5	+46.1
Peanut butter "	28.3	- 0.4	- 1.7	-12.9	+ 58.1	+58.1
*Oil, cooking or salad pt.	30.7	0	+ 0.3	+ 0.7	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
SUGAR AND SWEETS:						
Sugar 1b.	6.7	0	- 1.5	- 1.5	+ 31.4	+28.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.8	0	0	+ 1.3	+ 16.2	+15.3
*Molasses 18 oz.	15.8	0	- 1.2	+ 1.3	+ 17.9	+16.2
*Apple butter 16 oz.	13.5	0	+ 4.7	+ 4.7	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

NOTE: Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

* Not included in the index.

1/ Priced for the first time in February 1943.

2/ Not available.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and Other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100					Percent Change				
	Feb. 13	Jan. 16	Feb. 15	May 18	Jan. 14	Jan. 16	Feb. 15	May 18	Jan. 14	
	1945	1945	1944	1943	1941	1945	1944	1943	1941	
	<u>2/</u>					to Feb. 13 1945	to Feb. 13 1945	to Feb. 13 1945	to Feb. 13 1945	
United States	136.5	137.3	134.5	143.0	97.8	- 0.6	/ 1.5	- 4.5	/ 39.6	
New England:										
Boston	132.1	132.8	128.7	138.1	95.2	- 0.5	/ 2.6	- 4.3	/ 38.8	
Bridgeport	133.5	134.2	133.4	144.7	96.5	- 0.5	/ 0.1	- 7.7	/ 38.3	
Fall River	131.9	132.5	129.6	140.5	97.5	- 0.5	/ 1.8	- 6.1	/ 35.3	
Manchester	133.5	134.0	131.4	142.3	96.6	- 0.4	/ 1.6	- 6.2	/ 38.2	
New Haven	134.7	135.1	131.7	145.7	95.7	- 0.3	0	- 7.5	/ 40.8	
Portland, Maine	132.5	132.4	132.0	140.0	95.3	/ 0.1	/ 0.4	- 5.6	/ 39.0	
Providence	134.5	135.6	131.2	141.0	96.3	- 0.8	/ 2.5	- 4.6	/ 39.7	
Middle Atlantic:										
Buffalo	136.3	135.5	134.0	147.8	100.2	/ 0.6	/ 1.7	- 7.8	/ 36.0	
Newark	138.3	140.0	138.0	142.4	98.8	- 1.2	/ 0.2	- 2.9	/ 40.0	
New York	137.3	138.7	135.4	145.3	99.5	- 1.0	/ 1.4	- 4.2	/ 38.0	
Philadelphia	135.9	135.1	133.3	141.0	95.0	/ 0.6	/ 2.0	- 4.0	/ 43.1	
Pittsburgh	135.6	136.4	133.1	142.4	98.0	- 0.6	/ 1.9	- 4.8	/ 38.4	
Rochester	134.0	134.3	129.8	139.6	99.9	- 0.2	/ 3.2	- 4.0	/ 34.1	
Scranton	136.9	137.2	133.1	148.3	97.5	- 0.2	/ 2.9	- 7.7	/ 40.4	
East North Central:										
Chicago	134.5	135.3	131.3	141.1	98.2	- 0.6	/ 2.4	- 2.7	/ 37.0	
Cincinnati	134.6	135.5	133.7	138.3	96.5	- 0.7	/ 0.7	- 2.7	/ 39.5	
Cleveland	140.1	140.8	140.6	146.3	99.2	- 0.5	- 0.4	- 4.2	/ 41.2	
Columbus, Ohio	128.8	129.5	127.3	136.3	93.4	- 0.5	/ 1.2	- 5.5	/ 37.9	
Detroit	131.7	132.4	130.9	143.4	97.0	- 0.5	/ 0.6	- 8.2	/ 35.8	
Indianapolis	132.7	134.0 <u>5/</u>	131.9	140.2	98.2	- 1.0	/ 0.6	- 5.3	/ 35.1	
Milwaukee	133.8	135.2	131.0	141.9	95.9	- 1.0	/ 2.1	- 5.7	/ 39.5	
Peoria	140.1	140.0	137.6	148.7	99.0	/ 0.1	/ 1.8	- 5.8	/ 41.5	
Springfield, Ill.	141.8	142.7	139.2	148.5	96.2	- 0.6	/ 1.9	- 4.5	/ 47.4	
West North Central:										
Cedar Rapids <u>4/</u>	139.4	140.7	137.2	144.3	95.9	- 0.9	/ 1.6	- 3.4	/ 45.4	
Kansas City	137.6	131.6	129.8	137.9	92.4	- 0.8	/ 0.6	- 5.3	/ 41.3	
Minneapolis	129.7	130.7	128.9	134.9	99.0	- 0.8	/ 0.6	- 3.9	/ 31.0	
Omaha	129.7	130.6	131.9	137.9	97.9	- 0.7	- 1.7	- 5.9	/ 32.5	
St. Louis	139.1	140.0 <u>5/</u>	136.0	144.7	99.2	- 0.6	/ 2.3	- 3.9	/ 40.2	
St. Paul	128.8	129.6	127.6	134.8	98.6	- 0.6	/ 0.9	- 4.5	/ 30.6	
Wichita <u>4/</u>	147.2	148.0	146.3	150.7	97.2	- 0.5	/ 0.6	- 2.3	/ 51.4	

See footnotes at end of table.

Retail Food Costs in Large Cities 1/ (Cont'd)

Table 8 - Indexes and Percent Change from January 1941
and other Specified Periods

Region and City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100					Percent Change				
	Feb. 13	Jan. 16	Feb. 15	May 18	Jan. 14	Jan. 16	Feb. 15	May 18	Jan. 14	
	1945	1945	1944	1943	1941	1945	1944	1943	1941	
	2/					to	to	to	to	
						Feb. 13	Feb. 13	Feb. 13	Feb. 13	
						1945	1945	1945	1945	
South Atlantic:										
Atlanta	137.8	139.7	135.9	142.9	94.3	- 1.4	/ 1.4	- 3.6	/ 46.1	
Baltimore	145.2	145.2	140.2	152.6	97.9	0	/ 3.6	- 4.8	/ 48.3	
Charleston, S.C.	133.9	134.3	133.2	140.3	95.9	- 0.5	/ 0.5	- 4.6	/ 39.6	
Jacksonville	144.9	146.3	143.3	151.5	98.8	- 1.0	/ 1.1	- 4.4	/ 46.7	
Norfolk 3/	144.0	145.0	145.0	153.3	95.8	- 0.7	- 0.7	- 6.1	/ 50.3	
Richmond	135.0	136.5	133.0	141.5	93.7	- 1.1	/ 1.5	- 4.6	/ 44.1	
Savannah	150.9	150.7 5/	149.5	153.8	100.5	/ 0.1	/ 0.9	- 1.9	/ 50.1	
Washington, D.C.	137.4	138.0	133.6	142.5	97.7	- 0.4	/ 2.8	- 3.6	/ 40.6	
Winston-Salem 4/	138.1	139.7	134.7	140.0	93.7	- 1.1	/ 2.5	- 1.4	/ 47.4	
East South Central:										
Birmingham	140.6	142.8	137.8	140.7	96.0	- 1.5	/ 2.0	- 0.1	/ 46.5	
Jackson 4/	150.2	152.9	144.0	153.0	105.3	- 1.8	/ 4.3	- 1.8	/ 42.6	
Knoxville 4/	158.3	160.2	152.7	156.6	97.1	- 1.2	/ 3.7	/ 1.1	/ 63.0	
Louisville	130.1	131.9	131.2	141.5	95.5	- 1.4	- 0.8	- 8.1	/ 36.2	
Memphis	145.4	147.1	142.6	150.1	94.2	- 1.2	/ 2.0	- 3.1	/ 54.4	
Mobile	143.8	143.8	144.2	149.9	97.9	0	- 0.3	- 4.1	/ 46.9	
West South Central:										
Dallas	132.9	133.7	133.8	138.2	92.6	- 0.6	- 0.7	- 3.8	/ 43.5	
Houston	135.4	136.5	135.9	143.7	102.6	- 0.8	- 0.4	- 5.8	/ 32.0	
Little Rock	136.5	137.3	135.3	141.8	95.6	- 0.6	/ 0.9	- 3.7	/ 42.8	
New Orleans	150.0	150.6	148.4	152.5	101.9	- 0.4	/ 1.1	- 1.6	/ 47.2	
Mountain:										
Butte	133.2	134.8	133.4	138.3	98.7	- 1.2	- 0.1	- 3.7	/ 35.0	
Denver	136.9	137.8	135.7	143.8	94.8	- 0.7	/ 0.9	- 4.8	/ 44.4	
Salt Lake City	139.7	140.4	138.2	144.7	97.5	- 0.5	/ 1.1	- 3.5	/ 43.3	
Pacific:										
Los Angeles	141.8	143.4	140.5	146.2	101.8	- 1.1	/ 0.9	- 3.0	/ 39.3	
Portland, Oreg.	146.4	147.0	142.8	153.6	101.7	- 0.4	/ 2.5	- 4.7	/ 44.0	
San Francisco	145.3	146.9	141.8	148.0	99.6	- 1.1	/ 2.6	- 1.8	/ 45.9	
Seattle	142.2	143.4	140.6	150.3	101.0	- 0.8	/ 1.1	- 5.4	/ 40.8	

1/ Aggregate costs of 61 foods (54 foods prior to March 1943) in each city, weighted to represent total purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. Primary use is for time-to-time comparisons rather than place-to-place comparisons.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

4/ June 1940 equals 100.

5/ Revised.

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MAY 15 1945

COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD - MARCH 1945

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

The BLS index indicates average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, bought by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. The items covered represented 70 percent of the expenditures of families who had incomes ranging from \$1250 to \$2000 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods and forced changes in housing and eating away from home.

It does not measure changes in total "living costs" -- that is, in the total amount families spend for living. Income taxes and bond subscriptions are not included.

For a description of the methods used in computing the index, ask for "Description of the Cost of Living Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics." For an appraisal of the factors enumerated above, see the report of the President's Committee on the Cost of Living, November 17, 1944.

Retail prices for the goods and services important in the city family's budget declined slightly (0.1 percent) on the average between mid-February and mid-March, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins reported today. "Lower food prices, due chiefly to the large seasonal decrease in egg prices, more than offset advances for clothing, housefurnishings and some of the services," she announced.

"The Bureau of Labor Statistics cost of living index for March 15, 1945, is 126.8 percent of the 1935-39 average, and is 2.4 percent above the level of a year ago.

"The average cost for all foods other than eggs rose 0.1 percent; including eggs, average food costs declined 0.4 percent over the month. All of the major groups except eggs were higher in price or remained unchanged. Meats rose 0.1 percent on the average, principally because of increases in prices of lamb and chicken. The scarcity of meats in retail stores, however, was more acute than in preceding months; over 40 percent of the stores surveyed had no beef and more than 60 percent, no pork or veal when Bureau of Labor Statistics field agents visited stores to collect March prices.

"The average cost for fresh fruits and vegetables rose 0.4 percent over the month with seasonally higher prices for apples, oranges, sweetpotatoes, and lettuce. White potato prices advanced with the appearance of new potatoes in some cities and as ceilings on the Southern Florida crop were adjusted upward late in February to reflect the historical differential on potatoes from that section.

LS 45-3087

"Clothing prices moved up 0.3 percent on the average over the month, reflecting the continuing shortages of low cost apparel. Stocks of wool clothing in retail stores in March were reported to the Bureau's agents to be at the lowest level since the beginning of the war, as the major portion of wool yarns was earmarked for military orders. An informal policy of limiting sales of scarce items of clothing has been instituted by many retail stores. There were some decreases reported for the limited quantities of cotton clothing produced under WPB-OPA programs. Of the goods produced under this program, men's percale dress shirts were lower in price in practically all of the cities surveyed; men's shorts and women's percale housedresses were lower in a few cities.

"Housefurnishings costs advanced 0.3 percent between February 15 and March 15. Prices of prewar quality living room suites and sofa beds, now being produced, were generally higher than when production was suspended in 1942 because of the scarcity of lower priced coverings. Shortages were reported for lower-priced bedroom and dining room furniture, dinnerware, wool rugs, sheets and towels.

"Rents remained stable on the average, but the housing shortage continues to be acute in many cities.

"Average fuel, electricity and ice charges showed no change over the month ending March 15.

"The cost of miscellaneous goods and services increased 0.2 percent in the month ending March 15. Costs of medical care rose in some cities as increases in fees were reported by doctors, dentists, optometrists, and hospitals. Prices for pipe tobacco were higher, and lower priced cigars became generally unavailable."

TABLE 1 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS 1/
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Mar. 1945	Feb. 1945	Mar. 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941 <u>2/</u>	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Hold the Line <u>3/</u>	GMPR	"Little Steel"	War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL ITEMS	126.8	126.9R	123.8	125.1	116.0	100.8	98.6
Food <u>4/</u>	135.9	136.5	134.1	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing <u>5/</u>	143.7	143.3	136.7	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent <u>6/</u>	108.3	--	108.1	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice <u>7/</u>	110.0	110.0	109.9	107.6	104.9	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	95.5	95.5	96.0	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	124.1	124.1	123.5	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings <u>5/</u>	144.5	144.0R	129.0	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous <u>5/</u>	123.6	123.4R	119.1	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4
Percent Change to March 1945							
ALL ITEMS	--	-0.1	2.4	1.4	9.3	25.8	28.6
Food	--	-0.4	1.3	-5.0	11.8	39.2	45.3
Clothing	--	0.3	5.1	12.4	13.9	42.0	43.3
Rent	--	--	0.2	0.3	-1.5	3.1	3.8
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	0	0.1	2.2	4.9	9.1	12.8
Gas & electricity	--	0	-0.5	-0.6	-1.1	-2.1	-3.5
Other fuels & ice	--	0	0.5	4.5	9.9	19.3	28.9
Housefurnishings	--	0.3	12.0	15.5	18.2	44.2	43.6
Miscellaneous	--	0.2	3.8	7.2	11.5	21.4	23.1

R - Revised

1/ The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. They do not include income taxes or war bond subscriptions. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than another. Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941. (See note 2/.)

2/ Indexes have been estimated for January 1, the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board, by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

3/ The President's "Hold-the-Line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is, therefore, used for this comparison.

4/ Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities on the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month.

5/ Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

6/ Rents are surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all-items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, rental costs are assumed to remain stable in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

7/ Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

TABLE 2 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES 1/
PERCENT CHANGES TO MARCH 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Feb. 1945	Mar. 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941 2/	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	Hold the Line 3/	GMPR	"Little Steel"	War in Europe
AVERAGE 2-7/	-0.1	2.4	1.4	9.3	25.8	23.6
Atlanta, Ga.	--	4.1	3.0	12.2	29.0	31.3
Baltimore, Md.	-0.2	3.1	1.2	9.8	28.9	31.5
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.2	2.7	3.6	9.8	28.2	32.3
Boston, Mass.	-0.3	2.0	0.5	8.4	24.0	26.6
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.3	1.9	-1.2	5.6	24.8	29.1
Chicago, Ill.	0.2	2.9	1.2	8.2	24.5	27.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.2	2.7	2.2	9.1	27.0	30.0
Cleveland, Ohio	0	1.5	1.3	9.2	27.2	29.7
Denver, Colo.	0.1	2.5	1.3	9.0	26.0	27.8
Detroit, Mich.	-0.2	2.2	0	7.2	26.0	29.2
Houston, Tex.	0	1.8	0.3	7.4	22.4	23.9
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	2.5	1.4	7.2	25.0	30.1
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	3.5	2.8	12.1	31.1	35.6
Kansas City, Mo.	0	2.5	2.1	9.6	27.1	26.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.4	2.4	2.7	9.4	26.0	28.6
Manchester, N. H.	--	2.1	0.6	8.9	23.6	31.8
Memphis, Tenn.	--	2.3	1.7	10.9	30.1	32.7
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	2.1	0.2	8.5	25.2	28.0
Minneapolis, Minn.	-0.1	1.5	1.1	6.2	20.9	23.5
Mobile, Ala.	--	1.6	0.5	8.2	27.9	30.2
New Orleans, La.	--	2.0	1.2	11.2	29.2	31.8
New York, N. Y.	-0.2	1.9	2.3	12.2	25.8	28.4
Norfolk, Va.	--	0.9	-0.5	9.6	30.4	34.2
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.4	2.7	1.0	9.9	27.0	28.8
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.3	2.7	2.2	10.2	26.1	29.7
Portland, Maine	--	2.0	0.9	8.3	27.3	29.1
Portland, Oreg.	--	2.9	1.7	9.4	30.6	33.1
Richmond, Va.	--	2.4	0.7	8.1	24.6	26.6
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.2	2.0	0.7	8.0	23.7	27.3
San Francisco, Calif.	0.3	3.3	2.7	11.9	29.3	32.5
Savannah, Ga.	0.1	2.6	2.6	11.9	33.4	36.3
Scranton, Pa.	--	2.8	-0.7	9.5	25.3	29.5
Seattle, Wash.	0.5	2.5	1.5	8.4	28.7	31.0
Washington, D. C.	-0.1	2.9	1.9	9.9	26.1	27.8

For footnotes 1 through 7, see end of Table 1, page 3.

TABLE 3 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES 1/
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM FEBRUARY 1945 TO MARCH 1945

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electric- ity & Ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
AVERAGE <u>2-7/</u>	-0.1	-0.4	0.3	0	0.3	0.2
Atlanta, Ga.	--	-0.7	--	0	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	-0.2	-0.8	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.5
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.2	-0.6	0.4	0	0	0.1
Boston, Mass.	-0.3	-1.1	0.4	0	2.7	0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.3	-0.8	0.1	0.1	0.4	0
Chicago, Ill.	0.2	0.4	0.9	0	-0.4 <u>8/</u>	0.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.2	-0.4	0.2	0	0.1	0.2
Cleveland, Ohio	0	-0.4	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.1
Denver, Colo.	0.1	0	0.2	-0.1	1.2	0.1
Detroit, Mich.	-0.2	-0.2	-0.9	0.3	1.0	0
Houston, Tex.	0	-0.4	0.2	0	2.7	0.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	-0.5	--	0	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	-1.4	--	-0.1	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0	-0.2	0.2	0	0.4	0.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.4	0.6	0.1	0	0	0.3
Manchester, N. H.	--	-0.6	--	0	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	-0.7	--	0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	0	--	0	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	-0.1	-0.3	0	0	0.1	0
Mobile, Ala.	--	0.1	--	0	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	0.7	--	0	--	--
New York, N. Y.	-0.2	-0.7	0.5	-0.2	-2.0 <u>8/</u>	0
Norfolk, Va.	--	-1.8	--	0	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.4	-1.2	0.1	0.1	0.9	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.3	-1.3	0.4	0	1.7	0.3
Portland, Maine	--	-0.8	--	0	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	-0.4	--	0	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	-1.1	--	0	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.2	-0.7	0.1	0	0.2	0.3
San Francisco, Calif.	0.3	0.6	0.2	0	-0.1 <u>8/</u>	0.2
Savannah, Ga.	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0	3.7	0.1
Scranton, Pa.	--	-0.7	--	0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	0.5	0.6	1.0	0	1.3	0.2
Washington, D. C.	-0.1	-0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

For footnotes 1 through 7, see end of Table 1, page 3.

8/ Revised, due to downward adjustment for some housefurnishings of prewar quality, based on additional information obtained after reappearance of these goods in retail markets in 1944.

March 1945

TABLE 3A - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES 1/
 PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
 FROM DECEMBER 1944 TO MARCH 1945

City	All-- Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Electric- ity & Ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
AVERAGE <u>2-7/</u>	-0.2	-1.1	0.6	07	0.5	1.0	0.4
Atlanta, Ga.	0	-1.4	0.7	0 <u>8/</u>	1.6	5.1	0.7
Baltimore, Md.	0.5	0.1	0.8	0 <u>8/</u>	0.4	0.7	1.5
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.5	-1.8	0.9	-0.2 <u>8/</u>	0.3	-0.5 <u>9/</u>	0.1
Boston, Mass.	-0.5	-1.6	0.6	<u>10/</u>	0.4	2.5	0.3
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.1	0.8	0.1	<u>10/</u>	0.3	-2.9 <u>9/</u>	-0.4
Chicago, Ill.	-0.2	-1.1	1.3	<u>10/</u>	0	-2.4 <u>9/</u>	0.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.1	-0.4	1.0	0	0	-2.8 <u>9/</u>	0.6
Cleveland, Ohio	0.5	-0.7	1.0	<u>10/</u>	8.1	1.4	0.2
Denver, Colo.	-0.1	-0.7	0.8	<u>10/</u>	-0.1	4.4	0.1
Detroit, Mich.	-0.2	-1.0	-0.8	<u>10/</u>	1.1	6.8	0.1
Houston, Tex.	0.1	-0.8	0.3	-0.2 <u>8/</u>	0	8.6	0.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	-0.4	-1.3	0.5	<u>10/</u>	0	0.4	0
Jacksonville, Fla.	-0.6	-2.7	0.3	<u>10/</u>	-0.3	-3.7 <u>9/</u>	2.5
Kansas City, Mo.	0.2	-0.5	1.4	<u>10/</u>	0	0.9	0.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.1	-0.8	0.6	<u>10/</u>	0	3.8	0.8
Manchester, N. H.	-0.3	-0.7	0.1	-0.2 <u>8/</u>	0.1	-0.1 <u>9/</u>	0.1
Memphis, Tenn.	-0.3	-0.8	0.5	-0.3 <u>8/</u>	0.1	-0.6 <u>9/</u>	0.3
Milwaukee, Wis.	-0.1	-1.0	1.3	0.5 <u>8/</u>	0	-0.1 <u>9/</u>	0.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	-0.1	-0.8	1.5	-0.2 <u>8/</u>	-0.5	2.2	0.2
Mobile, Ala.	-0.4	-0.5	0.3	<u>10/</u>	-0.2	-5.5 <u>9/</u>	0.1
New Orleans, La.	0.3	0.5	0.1	<u>10/</u>	-4.2	<u>11/</u>	1.1
New York, N. Y.	-0.6	-1.7	0.6	<u>10/</u>	0.1	-1.6 <u>9/</u>	0.1
Norfolk, Va.	-0.3	-1.3	0.2	<u>10/</u>	0	-2.1 <u>9/</u>	1.3
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.1	-0.5	0.6	0.1 <u>8/</u>	1.2	2.1	0.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.3	-1.7	1.0	<u>10/</u>	0	4.2	0.3
Portland, Maine	-0.2	-1.3	1.8	-0.1 <u>8/</u>	-0.1	2.3	0.2
Portland, Oreg.	-0.1	-1.6	0.2	<u>10/</u>	0	5.1	1.3
Richmond, Va.	-0.2	-2.6	1.5	0.1 <u>8/</u>	0	1.3	2.3
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.3	-1.0	-0.1	0 <u>8/</u>	0.1	-0.9 <u>9/</u>	0.5
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.8	-1.9	0.5	0 <u>8/</u>	0	-6.0 <u>9/</u>	0.2
Savannah, Ga.	0.5	0.1	0.6	<u>10/</u>	1.0	7.4	0.5
Scranton, Pa.	-0.6	-0.9	0.3	<u>10/</u>	-0.1	-2.4 <u>9/</u>	-0.2
Seattle, Wash.	0.2	-0.6	1.6	-0.2 <u>8/</u>	0.4	1.0	0.8
Washington, D. C.	0.2	-0.2	0.5	<u>10/</u>	0.8	0.6	0.3

For footnotes 1 through 7, see end of Table 1, page 3.

8/ Change from September 1944.

9/ Revised, due to downward adjustment for some housefurnishings of prewar quality, based on additional information obtained after reappearance of these goods in retail markets in 1944.

10/ Rents not surveyed in March.

11/ Not available. Insufficient data.

TABLE 4 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES 1/
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for January and February revised.)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Electric- ity & Ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
AVERAGE 2-7/							
January	127.1	137.3	143.0	--	109.7	143.6	123.3
February	126.9	136.5	143.3	--	110.0	144.0	123.4
March	126.8	135.9	143.7	108.3	110.0	144.5	123.6
Atlanta, Ga.							
January	--	139.7	--	--	115.9	--	--
February	--	137.8	--	--	115.9	--	--
March	128.7	136.9	140.7	106.7	115.9	140.5	131.3
Baltimore, Md.							
January	129.8	145.2	147.2	--	108.7	148.4	121.8
February	130.0	145.2	147.4	--	109.1	148.5	122.7
March	129.8	144.1	147.7	106.5	109.3	149.4	123.3
Birmingham, Ala.							
January	131.3	142.8	140.9	--	104.7	140.8	125.1
February	130.5	140.6	141.1	--	104.8	139.9 <u>8</u> /	125.1
March	130.3	139.8	141.6	122.3	104.8	139.9	125.2
Boston, Mass.							
January	123.6	132.8	140.0	--	120.2	139.5	117.5
February	123.3	132.1	140.2	--	120.7	139.3	117.6
March	122.9	130.6	140.7	--	120.7	143.0	117.7
Buffalo, N. Y.							
January	127.4	135.5	140.3	--	106.9	142.9	125.7
February	127.6	136.3	140.3	--	107.1	138.3 <u>8</u> /	125.7
March	127.2	135.2	141.0	--	107.2	138.8	125.7
Chicago, Ill.							
January	126.0	135.3	137.6	--	105.2	141.9	121.8
February	125.7	134.5	137.8	--	105.2	138.6 <u>8</u> /	122.0
March	126.0	135.0	139.0	--	105.2	138.0 <u>8</u> /	122.2
Cincinnati, Ohio							
January	127.0	135.5	144.0	--	106.2	146.1	125.0
February	126.7	134.6	145.3	--	106.2	141.5 <u>8</u> /	125.0
March	126.5	134.1	145.6	105.6	106.2	141.7	125.2

For footnotes, see page 10.

TABLE 4 (continued) - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES 1/
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for January and February revised.)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Electric- ity & Ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
Cleveland, Ohio							
January	129.8	140.8	144.0	--	112.2	141.9	122.5
February	129.7	140.1	144.3	--	112.4	143.6	122.5
March	129.7	139.6	145.1	--	112.5	143.9	122.6
Denver, Colo.							
January	126.2	137.8	134.9	--	104.2	152.4	122.1
February	125.9	136.9	135.4	--	104.2	153.4	122.1
March	126.0	136.9	135.7	--	104.1	155.3	122.2
Detroit, Mich.							
January	127.5	132.4	141.1	--	112.4	146.7	129.5
February	127.5	131.7	141.1	--	112.8	154.7	129.5
March	127.3	131.4	139.8	--	113.1	156.3	129.5
Houston, Tex.							
January	125.2	136.5	138.7	--	91.1	139.2	123.2
February	124.8	135.4	138.8	--	91.1	140.0	123.2
March	124.8	134.8	139.1	109.4	91.1	143.8	123.3
Indianapolis, Ind.							
January	--	134.0	--	--	112.2	--	--
February	--	132.7	--	--	112.2	--	--
March	127.5	132.1	137.5	--	112.2	150.1	126.7
Jacksonville, Fla.							
January	--	146.3	--	--	114.1	--	--
February	--	144.9	--	--	114.0	--	--
March	133.6	142.8	141.4	--	113.9	147.7 8/	137.2
Kansas City, Mo.							
January	125.1	131.6	142.8	--	110.2	130.4	125.4
February	125.1	130.6	143.9	--	110.2	130.7	126.0
March	125.1	130.3	144.2	--	110.2	131.2	126.4
Los Angeles, Calif.							
January	129.2	143.4	140.6	--	92.5	139.6	125.8
February	128.7	141.8	140.6	--	92.5	143.2	125.9
March	129.2	142.7	140.8	--	92.5	143.2	126.3

For footnotes, see page 10.

TABLE 4 (continued) - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES 1/
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for January and February revised.)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Electric- ity & Ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
Manchester, N. H.							
January	--	134.0	--	--	127.4	--	--
February	--	133.5	--	--	127.5	--	--
March	128.9	132.7	146.5	107.8	127.5	146.2 <u>8</u> /	122.2
Memphis, Tenn.							
January	--	147.1	--	--	105.4	--	--
February	--	145.4	--	--	105.5	--	--
March	129.8	144.4	147.7	115.7	105.5	138.1 <u>8</u> /	120.0
Milwaukee, Wis.							
January	--	135.2	--	--	109.5	--	--
February	--	133.8	--	--	109.5	--	--
March	124.2	133.8	135.7	108.8	109.5	142.5 <u>8</u> /	119.5
Minneapolis, Minn.							
January	123.3	130.7	138.1	--	102.6	135.9	122.5
February	123.2	129.7	140.1	--	102.6	138.6	122.6
March	123.1	129.3	140.1	110.2	102.6	138.7	122.6
Mobile, Ala.							
January	--	143.8	--	--	102.7	--	--
February	--	143.8	--	--	102.7	--	--
March	128.4	143.9	138.2	--	102.7	136.9 <u>8</u> /	119.8
New Orleans, La.							
January	--	150.6	--	--	100.0	--	--
February	--	150.0	--	--	100.0	--	--
March	131.4	151.0	138.7	--	100.0	9/	120.0
New York, N. Y.							
January	127.9	138.7	148.7	--	114.0	136.5	125.8
February	127.4	137.3	148.8	--	114.3	136.9	125.8
March	127.1	136.4	149.5	--	114.1	134.2 <u>8</u> /	125.8
Norfolk, Va.							
January	--	145.0	--	--	119.7	--	--
February	--	144.0	--	--	119.7	--	--
March	131.2	141.4	141.4	--	119.7	142.5 <u>8</u> /	131.2

For footnotes, see page 10.

March 1945 TABLE 4 (continued) - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES 1/
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for January and February revised.)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
Philadelphia, Pa.							
January	126.0	135.1	144.1	--	109.3	141.5	120.7
February	126.5	135.9	144.7	--	110.4	142.9	120.7
March	126.0	134.3	144.9	106.9	110.5	144.2	120.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.							
January	128.1	136.4	164.9	--	112.1	139.8	119.6
February	128.0	135.6	165.6	--	112.0	143.1	119.6
March	127.6	133.8	166.3	--	112.0	145.5	119.9
Portland, Maine							
January	--	132.4	--	--	119.2	--	--
February	--	132.5	--	--	119.2	--	--
March	125.4	131.4	145.2	106.6	119.2	141.1	122.6
Portland, Oreg.							
January	--	147.0	--	--	116.6	--	--
February	--	146.4	--	--	116.6	--	--
March	133.2	145.8	142.1	--	116.6	145.1	128.7
Richmond, Va.							
January	--	136.5	--	--	108.6	--	--
February	--	135.0	--	--	108.6	--	--
March	124.1	133.5	144.5	104.0	108.6	142.7	118.9
St. Louis, Mo.							
January	125.5	140.0	139.5	--	107.2	126.4	119.4
February	125.1	139.1	139.5	--	107.3	124.9 <u>8/</u>	119.5
March	124.9	138.1	139.6	106.1	107.3	125.1	119.9
San Francisco, Calif.							
January	132.0	146.9	141.8	--	92.6	139.3	131.3
February	131.2	145.3	141.8	--	92.6	130.6 <u>8/</u>	131.3
March	131.6	146.2	142.1	106.3	92.6	130.5	131.5
Savannah, Ga.							
January	134.9	150.7	143.4	--	113.0	145.9	129.5
February	135.1	150.9	143.7	--	113.0	146.8	129.9
March	135.3	150.7	143.8	--	113.0	152.3	130.0
Scranton, Pa.							
January	--	137.2	--	--	111.0	--	--
February	--	136.9	--	--	111.0	--	--
March	124.3	135.9	146.8	--	111.0	140.6 <u>8/</u>	115.3
Seattle, Wash.							
January	131.2	143.4	141.8	--	103.7	141.2	131.8
February	130.8	142.2	142.3	--	103.9	140.6 <u>8/</u>	132.0
March	131.4	143.0	143.7	111.1	103.9	142.4	132.3
Washington, D. C.							
January	126.1	138.0	150.2	--	109.0	139.9	126.8
February	126.1	137.4	150.4	--	109.6	140.4	127.1
March	126.0	136.8	150.6	--	109.7	140.6	127.2

For footnotes 1 through 7, see end of Table 1, page 3.

8/ Revised, due to downward adjustment for some housefurnishings of prewar quality, based on additional information obtained after reappearance of these goods in retail markets in 1944.

9/ Not available. Insufficient data.

TABLE 5 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED 1/
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Mar.13 1945 This Month <u>2/</u>	Feb.13 1945 Last Month	Mar.14 1944 Year Ago	May 18 1943 Hold the Line <u>3/</u>	May 12 1942 GMPR	Jan.14 1941 Little Steel	Aug.15 1939 War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL FOODS	135.9	136.5	134.1	143.0	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	108.7	108.7	108.0	107.6	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	130.8	130.7	130.6	138.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	118.4	118.4	119.1	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.4	112.5	112.3	125.5	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	135.9	135.5	134.1	141.6	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	153.6	152.9	150.2	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	214.3	215.2	220.2	200.5	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	133.5	133.5	133.6	136.9	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	140.7	153.2 <u>4/</u>	135.5	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	169.5	168.9	162.9	190.8	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	178.6	177.8	170.6	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	129.9	129.8	129.6	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	167.4	167.0	163.2	158.0	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.5	124.5	124.4	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	123.7	123.5	123.5	126.3	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	126.5	126.3	126.5	127.6	127.1	95.3	95.6
Percent Change to March 13, 1945							
ALL FOODS	--	-0.4	1.3	- 5.0	11.8	39.0	45.3
Cereals & bakery products	--	0	0.6	1.0	3.3	14.5	16.4
Meats	--	0.1	0.2	- 5.4	5.2	29.4	36.7
Beef & veal	--	0	-0.6	- 9.8	- 4.6	8.2	18.9
Pork	--	-0.1	0.1	-10.4	- 8.8	30.5	27.7
Lamb	--	0.3	1.3	- 4.0	15.0	37.7	37.6
Chickens	--	0.5	2.3	4.1	35.4	58.0	62.4
Fish, fresh & canned	--	-0.4	-2.7	6.9	42.0	80.5	115.2
Dairy products	--	0	-0.1	- 2.5	8.3	27.0	43.4
Eggs	--	-8.2	3.8	- 1.0	21.9	44.5	55.1
Fruits & vegetables	--	0.4	4.1	-11.2	31.7	81.7	83.4
Fresh	--	0.4	4.7	-13.2	37.4	91.2	92.5
Canned	--	0.1	0.2	- 0.9	5.9	42.1	41.8
Dried	--	0.2	2.6	5.9	27.6	68.1	85.4
Beverages	--	0	0.1	0	- 0.1	37.0	31.2
Fats & oils	--	0.2	0.2	- 2.1	1.1	54.0	46.4
Sugar & sweets	--	0.2	0	- 0.9	- 0.5	32.7	32.3

1/ In March 1943 the number of cities included in the index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ The President's "Hold-the-Line" order was issued on April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is, therefore, used for this comparison.

4/ Revised.

TABLE 6 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
FEBRUARY 13, 1945 TO MARCH 13, 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Prod- ucts	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- er- ages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweetens
AVERAGE	- 0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	- 8.2	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.2
Atlanta, Ga.	- 0.7	- 0.1	- 0.1	0	- 9.9	- 0.1	0	0	0
Baltimore, Md.	- 0.8	0	0.7	0.2	- 8.6	- 1.5	0.2	0	- 0.1
Birmingham, Ala.	- 0.6	- 0.5	- 2.8	0	- 6.1	4.3	0	- 0.5	0
Boston, Mass.	- 1.1	0	0.1	0	- 8.1	- 2.7	0	0	0.1
Bridgeport, Conn.	- 0.5	0	0	0.1	- 7.6	0.2	0.5	0	- 0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	- 0.3	0.1	0.2	0	- 6.8	- 1.9	- 0.3	0	0
Butte, Mont.	0	0.2	0.9	0.1	- 4.1	0.1	- 0.2	0.5	- 0.2
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	- 0.3	0	0.8	0	- 4.9	- 0.7	- 0.2	0	- 0.7
Charleston, S. C.	0.1	0.3	- 0.2	0	- 10.7	5.3	0	- 0.1	0
Chicago, Ill.	0.4	- 0.1	0	0.1	- 6.8	3.1	0	0.4	0.2
Cincinnati, O.	- 0.4	- 0.1	0.1	0	- 3.0	- 0.3	0	- 0.1	0.5
Cleveland, O.	- 0.4	0.1	0	- 0.1	- 7.6	0.5	0	0	- 0.2
Columbus, O.	- 0.5	0	0.4	0	- 9.9	0.7	0	0.2	0
Dallas, Tex.	0.7	0	0	0	- 6.8	4.6	0.1	0.3	0
Denver, Colo.	0	0	0.2	0	- 2.4	1.4	0	0.1	0
Detroit, Mich.	- 0.2	0.2	0	- 0.1	- 7.8	0.7	0	0.4	1.7
Fall River, Mass.	- 1.0	0	- 0.2	0	- 9.0	- 1.6	0	0.2	0
Houston, Tex.	- 0.4	0	0.4	0	- 7.1	- 0.7	- 0.3	- 0.1	0.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	- 0.5	0	0.2	0	- 10.4	1.2	- 0.2	0.2	0
Jackson, Miss.	- 2.1	- 0.2	0.3	- 0.1	- 24.0	- 3.4	0.1	0	0
Jacksonville, Fla.	- 1.4	0	0.7	0	- 16.7	- 0.6	0	- 0.1	0.3
Kansas City, Mo.	- 0.2	0.1	- 0.2	- 0.1	- 6.8	1.0	0.4	0.1	- 0.2
Knoxville, Tenn.	- 1.3	- 0.3	0.6	0	- 14.3	- 1.7	0	0	0.1
Little Rock, Ark.	- 0.5	0.3	0.2	- 0.1	- 7.3	0.3	0	0	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.6	0	- 0.2	- 0.1	- 7.6	4.0	- 0.2	0.1	0.1
Louisville, Ky.	0.1	0	0.4	0.1	- 7.4	2.0	0.5	1.0	0.1
Manchester, N. H.	- 0.6	0	0.2	- 0.1	- 8.4	- 0.9	0	0.1	0
Memphis, Tenn.	- 0.7	0.4	- 0.1	0	- 7.8	- 0.3	0.1	- 0.4	0.2
Milwaukee, Wisc.	0	0	0.2	- 0.1	- 8.5	2.6	0	0.1	- 0.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	- 0.3	0	0	0	- 5.8	1.0	- 0.1	0.2	0.1
Mobile, Ala.	0.1	- 0.1	0.4	0.1	- 9.7	2.1	0.1	- 0.1	0.4
Newark, N. J.	- 0.6	0	0.7	0.1	- 9.9	- 1.1	0	0.4	0.1
New Haven, Conn.	- 0.9	- 0.1	0.3	0.1	- 11.2	- 1.1	- 0.3	- 0.2	0.2
New Orleans, La.	0.7	- 0.3	0.6	0.3	- 6.5	3.6	0	- 0.1	0.3
New York, N. Y.	- 0.7	0	- 0.2	0	- 8.4	- 0.1	0	0.6	0.2
Norfolk, Va.	- 1.8	0	- 1.9	0	- 15.4	- 1.3	0	0	0
Omaha, Nebr.	- 0.1	0	0.3	0.1	- 5.9	0.6	0	0	0
Peoria, Ill.	- 0.3	0	0.5	- 0.1	- 6.6	- 0.5	0	- 0.6	0.8
Philadelphia, Pa.	- 1.2	- 0.5	0.6	0	- 8.6	- 2.6	0	0	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	- 1.3	- 0.1	0	0	- 7.7	- 3.1	- 0.2	- 0.5	- 0.1
Portland, Me.	- 0.8	0	0.4	0.1	- 9.3	- 1.3	0	- 0.1	0
Portland, Oreg.	- 0.4	0.1	0	0	- 7.8	0.8	0	0.2	0
Providence, R. I.	0.2	0	- 0.2	0.2	- 9.5	3.6	0	0	- 0.6
Richmond, Va.	- 1.1	0	- 0.7	0	- 11.3	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2

TABLE 6 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES
 PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
 FEBRUARY 13, 1945 TO MARCH 13, 1945

Page 13
 March 1945

City	: All : Foods :	: Cereals : and : Bakery	: Meats	: Dairy : Prod- : ucts	: Eggs	: Fruits : and : Veg.	: Bev- : er- : ages	: Fats : and : Oils	: Sugar : and : Sweets
Rochester, N. Y.	- 1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	- 6.5	- 2.7	- 0.1	0.0	0.0
St. Louis, Mo.	- 0.7	0	0.1	- 0.1	- 6.3	- 1.2	0	0.5	0
St. Paul, Minn.	- 0.5	0	0.5	0	- 6.0	- 0.8	0.1	0.2	0
Salt Lake City, Utah	- 0.5	- 0.2	0.5	0	- 7.0	- 0.4	0	0	- 0.2
San Francisco, Cal.	0.6	0.1	- 0.2	0.2	- 7.1	3.9	- 0.1	- 0.1	0.1
Savannah, Ga.	- 0.1	0	0.1	- 0.1	- 5.7	0.9	- 0.1	- 0.1	0
Scranton, Pa.	- 0.7	- 0.2	0.1	0.5	- 7.9	- 1.3	0	- 0.3	0
Seattle, Wash.	0.6	0	0.8	0.1	- 6.2	3.9	- 0.1	0.1	0.4
Springfield, Ill.	- 0.7	- 0.1	- 0.1	0	- 7.0	- 1.4	0	0	0
Washington, D. C.	- 0.4	0	0.6	0.1	- 9.8	- 0.2	- 0.1	0	- 0.2
Wichita, Kans.	0.2	0.2	- 0.8	- 0.1	- 7.2	4.4	0.1	- 0.4	0
Winston-Salem, N.C.	- 0.7	0	0	- 0.2	- 15.2	1.6	- 0.2	- 0.3	0.1

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES 1/
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO MARCH 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39 = 100.0)		Percent Change to March 13, 1945 from					
	Mar. 13 1945 2/	Feb. 13 1945	Feb. 13 1945	Mar. 12 1944	May 13 1943	May 12 1943	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 13 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Hold the Line 3/	GMPR	Little Steel	War in Europe
AVERAGE	135.9	136.5	-0.4	1.3	-5.0	11.8	39.0	45.3
Atlanta, Ga.	136.9	137.8	-0.7	2.9	-4.2	13.7	45.2	48.0
Baltimore, Md.	144.1	145.2	-0.8	3.4	-5.6	14.5	47.2	52.2
Birmingham, Ala.	139.8	140.6	-0.6	2.6	-0.6	16.0	45.6	54.1
Boston, Mass.	130.6	132.1	-1.1	1.6	-5.4	10.4	37.2	39.7
Bridgeport, Conn.	132.8	133.5	-0.5	0.2	-8.2	9.5	37.6	42.5
Buffalo, N. Y.	135.2	136.3	-0.8	1.4	-8.5	8.0	34.9	43.1
Butte, Mont.	133.2	133.2	0	0.2	-3.7	9.6	35.0	41.6
Cedar Rapids, Ia.	139.04/	139.44/	-0.3	1.8	-5.7	12.2	44.9	--
Charleston, S. C.	134.0	133.9	0.1	1.9	-4.5	8.8	39.7	40.9
Chicago, Ill.	135.0	134.5	0.4	2.6	-4.3	10.9	37.5	46.3
Cincinnati, O.	124.1	124.6	-0.4	0.9	-3.0	9.6	39.0	48.3
Cleveland, O.	139.6	140.1	-0.4	-0.5	-4.6	12.5	40.7	49.1
Columbus, O.	128.1	128.8	-0.5	0.9	-6.0	8.0	37.2	45.4
Dallas, Texas	133.8	132.9	0.7	1.7	-3.2	14.6	44.5	45.9
Denver, Colo.	136.9	136.9	0	0.9	-4.8	11.4	44.4	47.7
Detroit, Mich.	131.4	131.7	-0.2	0.5	-8.4	7.4	35.5	45.0
Fall River, Mass.	130.6	131.9	-1.0	1.5	-7.0	8.1	33.9	36.9
Houston, Texas	134.8	135.4	-0.4	-0.1	-6.2	7.1	31.4	37.8
Indianapolis, Ind.	132.1	132.7	-0.5	0.8	-5.8	5.7	34.5	45.6
Jackson, Miss.	147.14/	150.24/	-2.1	3.5	-3.9	14.7	39.7	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	142.8	144.9	-1.4	2.3	-5.7	12.1	44.5	49.1
Kansas City, Mo.	130.3	130.6	-0.2	0.4	-5.5	9.7	41.0	42.4
Knoxville, Tenn.	156.34/	158.34/	-1.3	3.0	-0.2	19.3	61.0	--
Little Rock, Ark.	136.1	136.5	-0.3	2.2	-4.0	10.5	42.4	44.8
Los Angeles, Calif.	142.7	141.8	0.6	1.3	-2.4	11.4	40.2	50.8
Louisville, Ky.	130.2	130.1	0.1	0.4	-8.0	6.2	36.3	41.4
Manchester, N. H.	132.7	133.5	-0.6	0.5	-6.7	7.0	37.4	39.8
Memphis, Tenn.	144.4	145.4	-0.7	2.4	-3.8	16.9	53.3	61.0
Milwaukee, Wisc.	133.8	133.8	0	1.4	-5.7	11.7	39.5	45.9
Minneapolis, Minn.	129.3	129.7	-0.3	0.5	-4.2	6.9	30.6	36.1
Mobile, Ala.	143.9	143.8	0.1	0.8	-4.0	13.5	47.0	50.7
Newark, N. J.	137.5	138.3	-0.6	-0.1	-3.4	13.7	39.2	43.8
New Haven, Conn.	133.5	134.7	-0.9	0.4	-8.4	10.7	39.5	42.5
New Orleans, La.	151.0	150.0	0.7	2.6	-1.0	17.1	48.2	54.7
New York, N. Y.	136.4	137.3	-0.7	0.5	-4.8	15.6	37.1	42.4

For footnotes, see page 15.

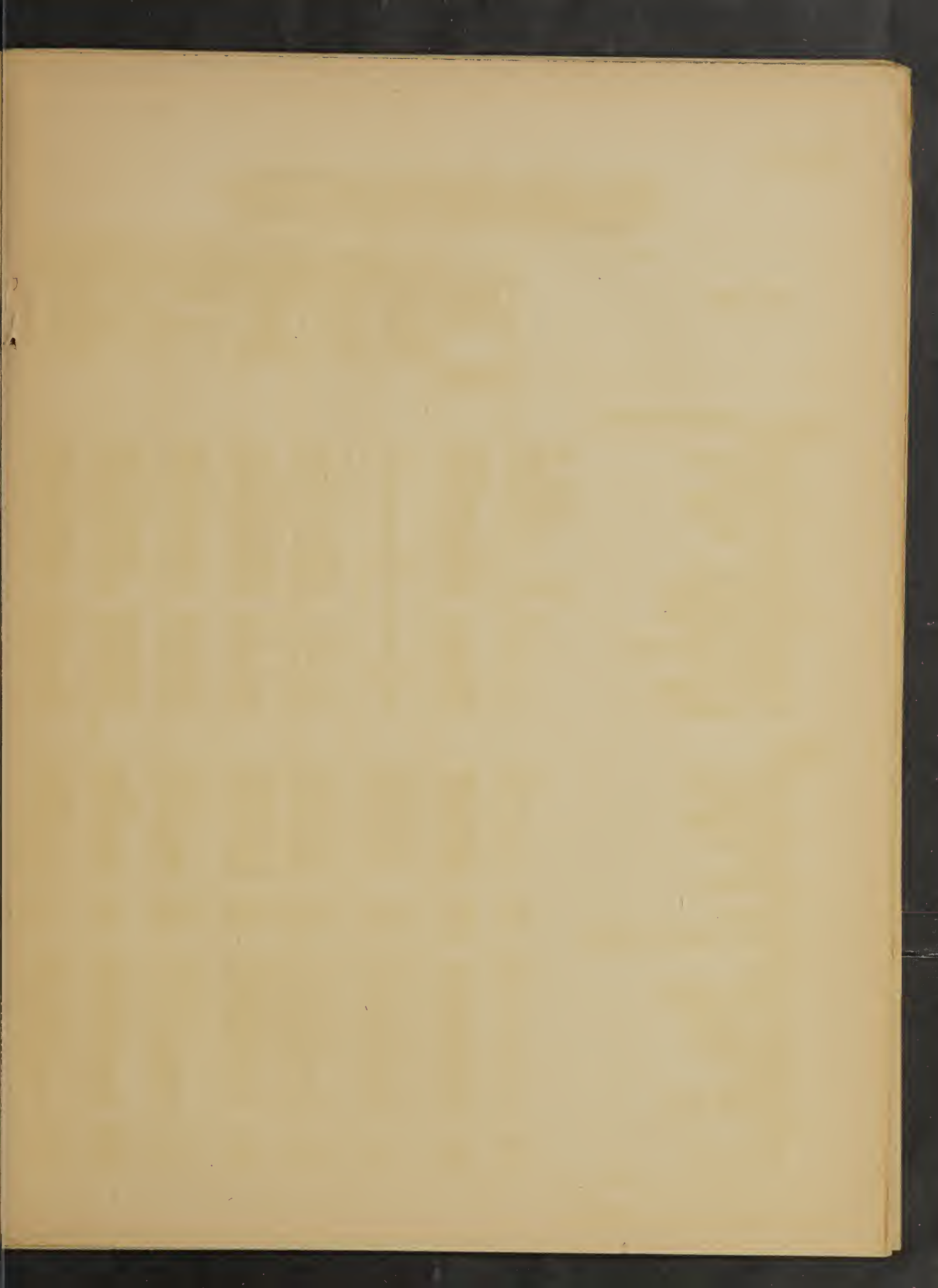


TABLE 8 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES 1/
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO MARCH 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity		Average Prices 3/13/45	Percent Change to March 13, 1945 from					
			Feb.13 1945	Mar.14 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan.14 1941	Aug.15 1939
			Last Month	Year Ago	Hold the Line2/	GMPR	Little Steel	War in Europe
		(cents)						
CEREALS & BAKERY PRODUCTS:								
Cereals:								
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.2	0	- 1.5	5.6	24.4	55.1	79.3
Macaroni	lb.	15.7	0	0	2.6	10.6	13.8	12.1
*Wheat cereal	28 oz.	23.1	0	- 0.9	- 2.5	- 4.1	- 1.7	- 4.5
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.5	0	0	- 4.4	- 9.7	- 8.5	- 7.1
Corn meal	lb.	6.4	0	8.5	14.3	36.2	52.4	60.0
*Rice	"	12.8	0	0	0.8	4.1	62.0	70.7
Rolled oats	"	10.3	1.0	18.4	18.4	19.8	45.1	45.1
*Flour, pancake	20 oz.	12.3	0	2.5	16.0	3/	3/	3/
Bakery products:								
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	0	0	- 1.1	1.1	12.8	12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.6	0	- 1.0	- 2.0	1.1	10.3	9.1
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	0	0	2.1	10.0	7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	28.9	0.3	1.0	- 0.7	4.3	15.1	3/
Soda crackers	"	18.9	0	0.5	6.2	15.2	26.0	27.7
MEATS:								
Beef:								
Round steak	lb.	40.4	-0.2	- 3.6	-13.7	- 8.6	4.7	11.0
Rib roast	"	32.7	-0.3	- 3.5	-13.3	- 3.8	3.8	13.1
Chuck roast	"	27.9	-0.4	- 4.5	-12.3	- 3.5	10.7	24.0
*Stew meat	"	29.3	-2.0	- 7.6	-16.3	3/	3/	3/
Liver	"	37.2	-0.3	- 0.8	- 0.8	3/	3/	3/
Hamburger	"	27.5	0	- 3.8	-14.6	3/	3/	3/
Veal:								
Cutlets	lb.	43.7	-1.1	- 4.4	-14.8	-18.5	- 3.3	2.8
*Roast, boned & rolled	"	34.9	-1.1	- 1.4	- 7.4	3/	3/	3/
Pork:								
Chops	lb.	37.0	-0.5	- 1.1	-11.7	-14.4	27.1	19.7
Bacon, sliced	"	40.9	-0.2	- 0.7	-10.5	4.1	35.9	34.5
Ham, sliced	"	50.0	0.2	- 2.7	-15.7	-15.0	10.9	7.8
Ham, whole	"	34.9	-0.9	- 1.4	-12.3	- 7.7	33.2	27.4
Salt pork	"	22.0	-1.3	- 2.2	-10.9	- 8.3	31.7	42.9
*Liver	"	22.1	0.5	- 0.5	- 6.4	3/	3/	3/
*Sausage	"	38.5	0.5	0	0.5	3/	3/	3/
*Bologna, big	"	33.6	-0.9	- 2.6	- 0.6	3/	3/	3/
Lamb:								
Leg	lb.	39.7	-0.3	- 1.0	- 5.0	17.5	42.8	43.8
Rib chops	"	45.3	0.2	- 0.2	- 6.8	9.7	29.4	23.4

TABLE 8 (continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES 1/
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO MARCH 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices 3/13/45 (cents)	Percent Change to March 13, 1945 from					
		Feb.13 1945	Mar.14 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan.14 1941	Aug.15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	Hold the Line2/	GMPR	Little Steel	War in Europe
MEATS: (continued)							
Poultry:							
Roasting chickens 4/ lb.	46.2	0.5	2.3	4.1	35.4	58.0	62.4
Fish:							
Fish (fresh, frozen) 4/ lb.	5/	- 0.5	- 3.2	7.7	50.9	86.4	119.9
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.6	0.4	- 2.5	- 1.7	8.3	50.3	84.4
*Salmon, red "	41.1	1.5	- 4.6	- 0.7	2.8	55.7	77.9
DAIRY PRODUCTS:							
Butter lb.	49.9	0	- 0.6	-10.3	9.2	31.3	62.5
Cheese "	35.8	0.8	- 0.3	- 6.8	5.3	32.6	44.9
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	0	0	4.7	20.0	30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	0	0.7	7.4	21.8	31.8
Milk, evaporated 14 1/2 oz. can	10.0	0	0	- 1.0	14.9	40.8	49.3
EGGS:							
Eggs, fresh 4/ doz.	49.9	- 8.2	3.8	- 1.0	21.9	44.5	55.1
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:							
Fresh fruits and vegetables:							
Fresh fruits:							
Apples lb.	11.4	1.8	- 1.7	-11.6	52.0	119.2	159.1
Bananas "	10.3	0	- 8.8	-12.0	-14.2	56.1	68.9
Oranges doz.	44.4	1.1	6.0	5.2	41.4	62.6	41.0
*Grapefruit ea.	9.0	2.3	20.0	15.4	42.9	3/	3/
Fresh vegetables:							
Beans, green lb.	20.2	- 1.5	6.9	16.1	50.7	44.3	180.6
Cabbage "	5.5	-14.1	7.8	-52.2	22.2	61.8	41.0
Carrots bunch	7.8	-10.3	- 9.3	- 4.9	18.2	30.0	69.6
Lettuce head	12.1	14.2	15.2	-26.7	31.5	44.0	44.0
Onions lb.	5.4	- 8.5	-34.1	-37.2	-20.6	50.0	50.0
Potatoes 15 lb.	77.4	2.8	21.7	-16.3	46.0	165.1	125.0
Spinach lb.	11.6	- 8.7	12.6	0	56.8	58.9	48.7
Sweetpotatoes "	9.4	4.4	-14.5	-47.5	74.1	88.0	70.9
*Beets bunch	9.4	1.1	6.8	-19.0	3/	3/	3/
Canned fruits and vegetables:							
Canned fruits:							
Peaches #2 1/2 can	27.9	0.7	3.0	5.3	19.7	69.1	63.2
Pineapple "	26.8	1.5	- 2.5	- 6.6	- 1.1	28.2	27.6
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	0	0	2.9	46.9	3/	3/

For footnotes, see page 18.

TABLE 8 (continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES ^{1/}
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO MARCH 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices 3/13/45 (cents)	Percent Change to March 13, 1945 from					
		Feb.13 1945	Mar.14 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan.14 1941	Aug.15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	Hold the Line ^{2/}	GMPR	Little Steel	War in Europe
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (continued)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green #2 can	13.1	0	- 2.2	-12.7	- 6.4	31.0	31.0
Corn "	14.8	0	2.1	5.7	13.8	38.3	42.3
Peas "	13.3	0	- 1.5	-14.2	-15.8	0.8	- 2.2
Tomatoes "	12.1	0.8	0.8	- 5.5	0	44.0	40.7
*Soup, vegetable 11 oz. can	13.4	0	0	2.3	3/	3/	3/
Dried fruits and vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes 1b.	17.5	1.7	4.2	6.7	42.3	82.3	98.9
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans 1b.	11.3	0.9	6.6	13.0	25.6	73.8	94.8
*Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle oz.	3.7	0	0	0	3/	3/	3/
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee 1b.	30.3	0	1.3	1.0	4.8	46.4	35.9
Tea $\frac{3}{4}$ lb.	24.1	0	1.3	12.1	7.6	36.9	40.1
*Cocoa $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	10.4	1.0	5.1	13.0	2.0	14.3	20.9
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard 1b.	18.8	0	0	- 1.6	5.0	102.2	89.9
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons 1b.	20.0	- 0.5	0	- 1.0	1.0	77.0	70.9
In other containers "	24.6	- 0.4	- 0.8	1.2	- 4.7	34.4	21.8
Salad dressing pint	25.6	0	0	1.6	0.8	27.4	3/
Oleomargarine 1b.	24.1	0	0	2.6	7.6	54.5	46.1
Peanut butter "	28.3	0	- 1.0	-12.9	5.2	58.1	58.1
*Oil, cooking or salad pint	30.7	0	0.3	0.7	3/	3/	3/
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar 1b.	6.7	0	- 1.5	- 1.5	- 2.9	31.4	28.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.8	0	0	1.3	6.8	16.2	15.3
*Molasses 18 oz.	15.7	- 0.6	- 1.3	0.6	8.3	17.2	15.4
*Apple butter 16 oz.	13.6	0.7	3.0	5.4	3/	3/	3/

^{1/} Data are based on 51 cities combined prior to 1943 and on 56 cities combined from January 1943 to date.

^{2/} The President's "Hold-the-Line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is, therefore, used for this comparison.

^{3/} Not priced in earlier period.

^{4/} Percent change computed on the index.

^{5/} Composite price not computed.

* Not included in the index.

For release
May 25, 1945
in P.M. papers

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

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COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD - APRIL 1945

The BLS index indicates average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services, bought by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. The items covered represented 70 percent of the expenditures of families who had incomes ranging from \$1250 to \$2000 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods and forced changes in housing and eating away from home.

It does not measure changes in total "living costs" -- that is, in the total amount families spend for living. Income taxes and bond subscriptions are not included.

For a description of the methods used in computing the index, ask for "Description of the Cost of Living Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics". For an appraisal of the factors enumerated above, see the report of the President's Committee on the Cost of Living, November 17, 1944.

Continued shortages of meats, of some cotton clothing and of other low priced cost of living items were the most important factors in the retail situation in mid-April, Secretary of Labor Perkins said today. "Prices of cost of living items remained high. Increases were small (0.2 percent), and mostly seasonal from mid-March to mid-April," she said.

"Since the outbreak of the war in Europe, prices of living essentials are up 28.9 percent, not including an allowance of 3 to 4 points for quality deterioration and uptrading not included in the index. The Bureau of Labor Statistics cost of living index for April 15, 1945 is 127.1 percent of the 1935-39 average, and is 2.0 percent above the level of a year ago.

"During the latter half of March and the first half of April average food costs rose 0.5 percent and are 1.5 percent higher than last year at this time. Fresh fruits and vegetables were up 2.6 percent over the month, primarily because of advances which were mostly seasonal, for oranges, apples, lettuce, potatoes, cabbage, and carrots.

"There was little change in quoted prices of meat, but it was practically unobtainable in many cities. Approximately 80 percent of the retailers surveyed by the Bureau in the early part of the week of April 17 had no pork or veal for sale, and over 50 percent had no beef or lamb. It was reported that many markets were holding their limited supplies for sales on Fridays or Saturdays to regular customers. All prices collected by the Bureau are obtained from established retailers, without inquiry as to the sources of supplies. Overceiling prices are included but 'under the counter' or 'back door' sales are not represented.

"Clothing costs advanced 0.2 percent during the month, and are now 5.0 percent above last April's levels, reflecting the continuing shortage of low-cost clothing items. During late March and early April there were scattered increases in costs of women's rayon underwear and men's white broadcloth shirts. Cotton housedresses continued to advance on the average, although prices in a few cities declined as directive garments produced under WPB-OPA programs became available. Prices of men's work clothing showed minor price changes.

"Prices of housefurnishings articles and miscellaneous goods and services were up slightly (0.1 percent) between mid-March and mid-April, reflecting small scattered advances, and are respectively, 8.9 percent and 2.3 percent above last year's levels.

"Fuel, electricity and ice costs declined 0.2 percent on the average during the month ending April 15. This decrease resulted from discontinuing the extra charges for one-ton deliveries for anthracite, bituminous coal and coke temporarily allowed by the OPA in several cities.

"Rents were not surveyed in April."

NOTE: General explanation of tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1, the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board, by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

The President's "Hold-the-Line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is, therefore, used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

TABLE 1 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT. CHANGES

Page 3
April 1945

Group	Apr. 1945	Mar. 1945	Apr. 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	127.1	126.8	124.6	125.1	116.0	100.8	98.6
Food	136.6	135.9	134.6	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing	144.0	143.7	137.1	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent	--	108.3	108.1	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	109.8	110.0	109.9	107.6	104.9	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	95.5	95.5	96.0	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	123.7	124.1	123.5	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	144.7	144.5	132.9	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	123.7	123.6	120.9	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to April 1945

ALL ITEMS	--	0.2	2.0	1.6	9.6	26.1	28.9
Food	--	0.5	1.5	-4.5	12.3	40.0	46.1
Clothing	--	0.2	5.0	12.6	14.1	42.3	43.6
Rent ^{1/}	--	--	0.2	0.3	-1.5	3.1	3.8
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	-0.2	-0.1	2.0	4.7	8.9	12.6
Gas & electricity	--	0	-0.5	-0.6	-1.1	-2.1	-3.5
Other fuels and ice	--	-0.3	0.2	4.2	9.6	18.9	28.5
Housefurnishings	--	0.1	8.9	15.7	18.4	44.4	43.8
Miscellaneous	--	0.1	2.3	7.3	11.5	21.5	23.2

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

^{1/} Percent change to March, 1945.

TABLE 2 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO APRIL 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Mar. 1945	Apr. 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	CHPR	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	0.2	2.0	1.6	9.6	26.1	28.9
Baltimore, Md.	0.2	2.6	1.4	10.0	29.1	31.7
Birmingham, Ala.	0.3	2.4	3.9	10.1	23.6	32.7
Boston, Mass.	0	1.4	0.5	8.4	24.0	26.6
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.1	1.8	-1.3	5.5	24.7	29.0
Chicago, Ill.	0.4	2.0	1.6	8.6	25.0	28.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.4	1.4	2.6	9.6	27.5	30.5
Cleveland, Ohio	0.3	1.0	1.6	9.5	27.5	30.1
Denver, Colo.	0.4	2.1	1.7	9.4	26.5	28.3
Detroit, Mich.	0.4	2.1	0.4	7.6	26.5	29.7
Houston, Tex.	0.6	1.9	0.9	8.0	23.0	24.6
Kansas City, Mo.	0.3	2.1	2.4	10.0	27.5	27.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.6	3.2	3.3	10.1	26.3	29.4
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.1	1.2	1.1	6.3	21.0	23.6
New York, N. Y.	0.2	1.6	2.5	12.4	26.0	28.6
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.1	1.9	0.9	9.3	26.9	28.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.5	2.2	2.6	10.7	26.7	30.3
St. Louis, Mo.	0.2	1.3	1.0	8.3	24.0	27.6
San Francisco, Calif. <u>1/</u>	0.6	3.4	3.5	12.8	30.3	33.5
Savannah, Ga.	0	1.4	2.6	11.9	33.4	36.3
Seattle, Wash.	0	2.7	1.5	8.4	23.7	31.0
Washington, D. C.	0.2	2.4	2.1	10.1	26.4	28.1

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Index for Mar. 15, 1945 revised: All items 131.8.

TABLE 3 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, APRIL 1945

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electric- ity & Ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
AVERAGE	127.1	136.6	144.0	109.8	144.7	123.7
Atlanta, Ga.	--	137.3	--	115.9	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	130.0	144.9	147.1	108.7	149.6	123.4
Birmingham, Ala.	130.7	141.1	141.5	104.8	139.5	125.2
Boston, Mass.	122.9	130.8	140.7	120.2	143.6	117.7
Buffalo, N. Y.	127.1	134.7	141.5	106.9	138.7	125.7
Chicago, Ill.	126.5	136.2	139.4	105.2	138.0	122.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	127.0	135.0	146.1	106.2	141.7	125.2
Cleveland, Ohio	130.1	140.7	145.3	112.5	144.0	122.6
Denver, Colo.	126.5	137.9	135.8	104.1	155.0	122.6
Detroit, Mich.	127.8	132.1	141.4	112.8	156.9	129.6
Houston, Tex.	125.5	136.7	139.4	91.1	143.9	123.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	133.3	--	112.2	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	145.5	--	113.9	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	125.5	131.5	144.1	110.2	131.3	126.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	130.0	144.4	141.4	92.5	143.6	126.7
Manchester, N. H.	--	132.7	--	127.4	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	145.2	--	105.5	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	134.3	--	109.5	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	123.2	129.5	140.1	102.6	138.7	123.0
Mobile, Ala.	--	144.9	--	102.7	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	152.5	--	100.1	--	--
New York, N. Y.	127.3	136.8	149.6	114.1	134.3	125.9
Norfolk, Va.	--	140.1	--	119.7	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	125.9	134.2	145.3	109.4	144.6	121.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	128.2	135.4	166.0	112.0	145.6	120.0
Portland, Maine	--	131.3	--	119.2	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	147.4	--	117.1	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	133.2	--	108.6	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	125.2	139.0	139.9	107.3	125.2	119.9
San Francisco, Calif.	132.6	148.4	142.0	92.6	130.5	132.3
Savannah, Ga.	135.3	150.8	143.9	113.0	153.5	129.9
Scranton, Pa.	--	136.4	--	111.0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	131.4	143.0	144.4	103.9	142.4	132.3
Washington, D. C.	126.3	137.8	151.0	109.1	140.1	127.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 4 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM MARCH 1945 TO APRIL 1945

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
AVERAGE	0.2	0.5	0.2	-0.2	0.1	0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	--	0.3	--	0	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	0.2	0.6	-0.4	-0.5	0.1	0.1
Birmingham, Ala.	0.3	0.9	-0.1	0	-0.3	0
Boston, Mass.	0	0.2	0	-0.4	0.4	0
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.1	-0.4	0.4	-0.3	-0.1	0
Chicago, Ill.	0.4	0.9	0.3	0	0	0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.4	0.7	0.3	0	0	0
Cleveland, Ohio	0.3	0.8	0.1	0	0.1	0
Denver, Colo.	0.4	0.7	0.1	0	-0.2	0.3
Detroit, Mich.	0.4	0.5	1.1	-0.3	0.4	0.1
Houston, Tex.	0.6	1.4	0.2	0	0.1	0.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	0.9	--	0	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	1.9	--	0	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0.3	0.9	-0.1	0	0.1	-0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.6	1.2	0.4	0	0.3	0.3
Manchester, N. H.	--	0	--	-0.1	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	0.6	--	0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	0.7	--	0	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.1	0.2	0	0	0	0.3
Mobile, Ala.	--	0.7	--	0	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	1.0	--	0.1	--	--
New York, N. Y.	0.2	0.3	0.1	0	0.1	0.1
Norfolk, Va.	--	-0.9	--	0	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.1	-0.1	0.3	-1.0	0.3	0.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.5	1.2	-0.2	0	0.1	0.1
Portland, Maine	--	-0.1	--	0	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	1.1	--	0.4	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	-0.2	--	0	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	0.2	0.7	0.2	0	0.1	0
San Francisco, Calif. 1/	0.6	1.5	-0.1	0	0	0
Savannah, Ga.	0	0.1	0.1	0	0.3	-0.1
Scranton, Pa.	--	0.4	--	0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	0	0	0.5	0	0	0
Washington, D. C.	0.2	0.7	0.3	-0.5	-0.4	0.1

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Indexes for Mar. 1945 revised: All items 131.8, Miscellaneous 132.3

TABLE 5 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Apr.17 1945 This Month 1/	Mar.13 1945 Last Month	Apr.18 1944 Year Ago	May 18 1943 "Hold the Line"*	May 12 1942 GMPR	Jan.14 1941 "Little Steel" * 2/	Aug.15 1939 Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL FOODS	136.6	135.9	134.6	143.0	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	108.9	108.7	108.0	107.6	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	130.8	130.8	130.0	138.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	118.6	118.4	119.1	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.4	112.4	112.1	125.5	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	135.9	135.9	134.3	141.6	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	154.3	153.6	150.4	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	211.9	214.4 ^R	210.4	200.5	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	133.5	133.5	133.6	136.9	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	139.9	140.7	127.6	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	173.3	169.5	168.8	190.8	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	183.3	178.6	178.0	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.0	129.9	129.5	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	167.9	167.4	163.2	158.0	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.6	124.5	124.4	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	123.8	123.7	123.5	126.3	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	126.4	126.5	126.6	127.6	127.1	95.3	95.6
Percent Change to April 17, 1945							
ALL FOODS	--	0.5	1.5	- 4.5	12.3	39.7	46.1
Cereals & bakery products	--	0.2	0.8	1.2	3.5	14.8	16.6
Meats	--	0	0.6	- 5.4	5.2	29.4	36.7
Beef & veal	--	0.2	-0.4	- 9.6	- 4.4	8.4	19.1
Pork	--	0	0.3	-10.4	- 8.8	30.5	27.7
Lamb	--	0	1.2	- 4.0	15.0	37.7	37.6
Chickens	--	0.5	2.6	- 4.5	36.1	58.7	63.1
Fish, fresh & canned	--	-1.2	0.7	5.7	40.4	78.5	112.8
Dairy products	--	0	-0.1	- 2.5	8.3	27.0	43.4
Eggs	--	-0.6	9.6	- 1.5	21.2	43.6	54.2
Fruits & vegetables	--	2.2	2.7	- 9.2	34.7	85.7	87.6
Fresh	--	2.6	3.0	-10.9	41.0	96.3	97.5
Canned	--	0.1	0.4	- 0.8	5.9	42.2	41.9
Dried	--	0.3	2.9	6.3	28.0	68.6	85.9
Beverages	--	0.1	0.2	0.1	0	37.1	31.3
Fats & oils	--	0.1	0.2	- 2.0	1.1	54.2	46.5
Sugar & sweets	--	-0.1	-0.2	- 0.9	- 0.6	32.6	32.2

R - Revised.

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

TABLE 6 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
MARCH 13, 1945 TO APRIL 17, 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Beverages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
AVERAGE	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.6	2.2	0.1	0.1	-0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	0.3	0	-0.1	0	-1.3	2.1	0	0	0
Baltimore, Md.	0.6	0	-0.9	0	-1.1	3.0	-0.1	0.4	-0.1
Birmingham, Ala.	0.9	0.2	3.8	0	-0.5	0	0	0.5	0
Boston, Mass.	0.2	0.1	-0.5	0.1	-1.7	1.9	0	0.1	0.2
Bridgeport, Conn.	0.8	0	-0.2	0.1	-0.5	3.9	0	-0.1	0
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.4	0	0.5	-0.9	-0.4	-1.5	0	-0.2	0.1
Butte, Mont.	0.8	0	0.6	0	2.9	1.3	0.3	0.1	0
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	1.1	0.2	1.9	0	-0.2	2.3	0.2	-0.1	-0.3
Charleston, S. C.	-0.4	0	-0.5	0.1	-0.4	-0.7	0	0.1	0
Chicago, Ill.	0.9	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.4	3.0	0	0	0.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.7	0	0.7	0.1	-2.2	2.3	0	-0.1	-0.7
Cleveland, Ohio	0.8	0.1	0	0.1	-1.2	2.8	0	0	-0.1
Columbus, Ohio	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	-2.4	1.8	0.2	-0.2	0
Dallas, Texas	0.4	0	0	0	2.4	1.6	0.4	-0.2	-0.4
Denver, Colo.	0.7	-0.8	1.0	-0.7	-0.4	2.2	1.0	0.6	-0.4
Detroit, Mich.	0.5	0.3	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	2.3	0.4	-0.1	0.8
Fall River, Mass.	-0.4	0.1	-0.5	0	-1.7	-0.5	0	0	0
Houston, Texas	1.4	0.1	0	0	1.1	6.2	-0.1	0.2	0.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	0.9	0.2	0.3	-0.1	-2.0	4.6	0	0.3	-0.1
Jackson, Miss.	0.8	0.3	0	0	8.7	2.1	0	-0.4	0
Jacksonville, Fla.	1.9	-0.2	0.6	0	13.5	4.0	0	-0.1	0
Kansas City, Mo.	0.9	0.1	0.4	0.2	-1.3	3.6	0	0.1	0.5
Knoxville, Tenn.	0.1	0	0.2	0	-1.7	0.8	-0.1	0	0
Little Rock, Ark.	1.1	-0.1	1.2	-0.1	-1.5	3.4	0.7	0.2	-0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.2	0.1	0.3	0	-0.7	3.8	0.1	0.1	-0.3
Louisville, Ky.	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	-1.6	1.9	0.1	0	0
Manchester, N. H.	0	0.2	0.1	0	-1.7	0.4	0	0.1	0.2
Memphis, Tenn.	0.6	-0.1	0.7	0	-1.6	1.7	-0.1	0.2	0.2
Milwaukee, Wis.	0.4	0.2	-0.3	0	-1.6	2.0	-0.3	0	0.1
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.2	0	0	0	-2.4	1.4	0	0.1	-0.5
Mobile, Ala.	0.7	0	-0.2	0	0.8	3.7	0.2	0	0
Newark, N. J.	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.1	-0.9	0.7	0	0.2	0.2
New Haven, Conn.	0.4	0	0	0.1	-0.7	2.0	0	0.2	-0.2
New Orleans, La.	1.0	-0.1	1.8	0.1	-0.2	1.8	0.1	0.1	-0.1
New York, N. Y.	0.3	0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3	1.4	0.2	0.2	-0.3
Norfolk, Va. 1/	-0.9	0.1	-1.7	0	2.1	-2.0	-0.3	-0.2	0
Omaha, Nebr.	0.5	0.1	0.3	-0.1	-0.1	2.0	0	0.2	0.1
Peoria, Ill.	0.9	0.3	0	0	-2.3	3.4	-0.2	-0.1	0
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.1	0.4	-0.2	0	-1.3	0.2	0	0.3	-0.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.2	0.7	0.1	-0.5	1.5	4.3	-0.1	0.1	-0.9

For footnotes, see page 9.

TABLE 6 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
 PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
 MARCH 13, 1945 to APRIL 17, 1945

Page 9
 April 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Prod- ucts	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- er- ages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
Portland, Maine	-0.1	0	-0.5	0	-1.6	0.7	0	-0.1	0.2
Portland, Oreg.	1.1	0	0.3	0.1	0.1	3.6	0.3	0.3	0.1
Providence, R. I.	-0.5	-0.1	0.3	0.3	-1.7	-2.2	0.2	0.1	0
Richmond, Va.	-0.2	0.3	-1.8	0	1.3	0.9	0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Rochester, N. Y.	0.8	0.1	0.9	0	-1.5	3.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.2
St. Louis, Mo.	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.1	-2.0	2.5	0	0	0
St. Paul, Minn.	0.2	0	0.2	-0.1	-1.1	1.7	0.3	0.2	-0.4
Salt Lake City, Utah	0.8	-0.1	1.3	0	-1.8	2.6	0	0	0
San Francisco, Calif.	1.5	0.4	0.2	0	-1.6	5.1	0	-0.1	-0.1
Savannah, Ga.	0.1	0.1	0.4	0	-2.5	0	0.5	0	0.1
Scranton, Pa.	0.4	0.2	0.4	-0.4	-0.8	1.5	0	0.5	0
Seattle, Wash.	0	0.4	0.4	-0.1	-2.0	0.2	0	0	0.1
Springfield, Ill.	0.9	0	0.1	-0.1	-6.9	4.2	0	-0.3	1.2
Washington, D. C.	0.7	0	0.7	0	1.3	1.3	0	0.6	0.1
Wichita, Kans.	1.6	-0.2	0	0	0.3	6.6	0.2	0	0.2
Winston-Salem, N. C.	0.7	0.2	2.4	0.2	-1.9	-0.1	-0.2	0	0

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO APRIL 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent Change to April 17, 1945 from					
	Apr. 17 1945	Mar. 13 1945	Mar. 13 1945	Apr. 18 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR	"Little Steel" 2/ *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	136.6	135.9	0.5	1.5	-4.5	12.3	39.7	46.1
Atlanta, Ga.	137.3	136.9	0.3	2.0	-3.9	14.0	45.6	48.4
Baltimore, Md.	144.9	144.1	0.6	3.3	-5.0	15.2	48.0	53.0
Birmingham, Ala.	141.1	139.8	0.9	3.7	0.3	17.1	47.0	55.6
Boston, Mass.	130.8	130.6	0.2	1.0	-5.3	10.6	37.4	39.9
Bridgeport, Conn.	133.9	132.8	0.8	1.9	-7.5	10.4	38.8	43.7
Buffalo, N. Y.	134.7	134.2	-0.4	1.7	-8.9	7.6	34.4	42.5
Butte, Mont.	134.2	133.2	0.8	0.8	-3.0	10.5	36.0	42.6
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	3/140.5	2/139.0	1.1	3.2	-2.6	13.4	46.5	--
Charleston, S. C.	123.5	134.0	-0.4	1.1	-4.8	8.4	39.2	40.4
Chicago, Ill.	136.2	135.0	0.9	1.7	-3.5	11.9	38.7	47.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	135.0	134.1	0.7	-0.3	-2.4	10.3	39.9	49.3
Cleveland, Ohio	140.7	139.6	0.8	-0.7	-3.8	13.4	41.8	50.3
Columbus, Ohio	128.4	128.1	0.2	0.6	-5.8	8.3	37.5	45.7
Dallas, Tex.	134.4	133.8	0.4	2.1	-2.7	15.1	45.1	46.6
Denver, Colo.	137.9	136.9	0.7	1.0	-4.1	12.2	45.5	48.8
Detroit, Mich.	132.1	131.4	0.5	0.7	-7.9	7.9	36.2	45.8
Fall River, Mass.	130.1	130.6	-0.4	0.1	-7.4	7.7	33.4	36.4
Houston, Tex.	136.7	134.3	1.4	1.0	-4.9	8.6	33.2	39.8
Indianapolis, Ind.	133.3	132.1	0.9	0.9	-4.9	6.6	35.7	47.0
Jackson, Miss.	3/148.3	2/147.1	0.8	5.0	-3.1	15.6	40.8	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	145.5	142.8	1.9	2.9	-4.0	14.2	47.3	51.9
Kansas City, Mo.	131.5	130.3	0.9	1.1	-4.6	10.7	42.3	43.7
Knoxville, Tenn.	3/156.5	2/156.3	0.1	3.1	-0.1	19.5	61.2	--
Little Rock, Ark.	137.6	136.1	1.1	3.5	-3.0	11.7	43.9	46.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	144.4	142.7	1.2	4.2	-1.2	12.7	41.8	52.6
Louisville, Ky.	130.6	130.2	0.3	-0.9	-7.7	6.5	36.8	41.8
Manchester, N. H.	132.7	132.7	0	1.5	-6.7	7.0	37.4	39.8
Memphis, Tenn.	145.2	144.4	0.6	2.8	-3.3	17.6	54.1	61.9
Milwaukee, Wis.	134.3	133.8	0.4	1.7	-5.4	12.1	40.0	47.4
Minneapolis, Minn.	129.5	129.3	0.2	0.5	-4.0	7.1	30.8	36.3
Mobile, Ala.	144.9	143.9	0.7	1.0	-3.3	14.3	48.0	51.7
Newark, N. J.	138.0	137.5	0.4	0.3	-3.1	14.1	39.7	44.4
New Haven, Conn.	134.1	133.5	0.4	1.3	-8.0	11.2	40.1	43.1
New Orleans, La.	152.5	151.0	1.0	2.7	0	18.2	49.7	56.2
New York, N. Y.	136.8	136.4	0.3	0.8	-4.5	15.9	37.5	42.8

For footnotes, see page 11.

TABLE 7 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO APRIL 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-37=100.0)		Percent Change to April 17, 1945 from					
	Apr. 17 1945	Mar. 13 1945	Mar. 13 1945	Apr. 13 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR	"Little Steel." 2/ *	Month Before War in Europe
Norfolk, Va. 4/	140.1	141.4	-0.9	-2.6	-8.6	11.1	46.2	49.7
Omaha, Nebr.	130.3	129.6	0.5	-0.5	-5.5	8.7	33.1	41.2
Peoria, Ill.	140.9	139.7	0.9	2.5	-5.2	9.2	42.3	50.9
Philadelphia, Pa.	134.2	134.3	-0.1	1.3	-5.2	12.4	41.3	44.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	135.4	133.8	1.2	0.4	-4.9	11.5	38.2	46.4
Portland, Maine	131.3	131.4	-0.1	0.1	-6.4	7.9	37.3	36.9
Portland, Oreg.	147.4	145.8	1.1	3.7	-4.0	9.6	44.9	53.4
Providence, R. I.	134.1	134.8	-0.5	1.5	-4.9	9.8	39.3	43.1
Richmond, Va.	133.2	133.5	-0.2	1.2	-5.9	10.2	42.2	44.5
Rochester, N. Y.	133.7	132.6	0.8	4.0	-4.2	9.3	33.8	44.9
St. Louis, Mo.	139.0	138.1	0.7	1.2	-3.9	12.3	40.1	48.2
St. Paul, Minn.	128.5	128.2	0.2	0.9	-4.7	8.3	30.3	36.3
Salt Lake City, Utah	140.1	139.0	0.8	1.1	-3.2	12.8	43.7	48.1
San Francisco, Calif.	148.4	146.2	1.5	4.4	0.3	18.2	49.0	58.2
Savannah, Ga.	150.8	150.7	0.1	0	-2.0	15.7	50.0	55.9
Scranton, Pa.	136.4	135.9	0.4	0.7	-8.0	12.7	39.9	48.1
Seattle, Wash.	143.0	143.0	0	2.7	-4.9	10.1	41.6	51.3
Springfield, Ill.	142.0	140.8	0.9	1.3	-4.4	10.9	47.6	50.9
Washington, D. C.	137.8	136.8	0.7	3.3	-3.3	14.2	41.0	46.4
Wichita, Kans.	2/149.9	2/147.5	1.6	4.0	-0.5	16.2	54.2	--
Winston-Salem, N. C.	2/138.0	2/137.1	0.7	3.8	-1.4	15.7	47.3	--

* See general explanations of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

3/ June 1940 equals 100.

4/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO APRIL 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity		Average Prices Apr.17 1945 (cents)	Percent Change to April 17, 1945 from					
			Mar.13 1945	Apr.18 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan.14 1941	Aug.15 1939
			Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMFR	"Little Steel" 1/*	Month Before War in Europe
CEREALS & BAKERY PRODUCTS:								
Cereals:								
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.3	0.2	-1.2	5.8	24.6	55.3	79.6
Macaroni	lb.	15.8	0.6	0.6	3.3	11.3	14.5	12.9
Wheat cereal 2/	28 oz.	23.2	0.4	-0.4	- 2.1	- 3.7	- 1.3	-4.1
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.5	0	0	- 4.4	- 9.7	- 8.5	-7.1
Corn meal	lb.	6.4	0	6.7	14.3	36.2	52.4	60.0
Rice 2/	"	12.8	0	0	0.8	4.1	62.0	70.7
Rolled oats	"	10.3	0	18.4	18.4	19.8	45.1	45.1
Flour, pancake 2/	20 oz.	12.3	0	2.5	16.0	3/	3/	3/
Bakery products:								
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	0	1.1	- 1.1	1.1	12.8	12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.6	0	-1.0	- 2.0	1.1	10.3	9.1
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	0	0	2.1	10.0	7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	28.9	0	2.1	- 0.7	4.3	15.1	3/
Soda crackers	"	18.9	0	0	6.2	15.2	26.0	27.7
MEATS:								
Beef:								
Round steak	lb.	40.4	0	-3.6	-13.7	- 8.6	4.7	11.0
Rib roast	"	32.7	0	-3.3	-13.3	- 3.8	3.8	13.1
Chuck roast	"	28.0	0.4	-4.1	-11.9	- 3.1	11.1	24.4
Stew meat 2/	"	29.3	0	-7.3	-16.3	3/	3/	3/
Liver	"	36.9	-0.8	-1.3	- 1.6	3/	3/	3/
Hamburger	"	27.4	-0.4	-3.5	-14.9	3/	3/	3/
Veal:								
Cutlets	"	43.6	-0.2	-4.4	-15.0	-18.7	- 3.5	2.6
Roast, boned and rolled 2/	"	34.6	-0.9	-3.1	- 8.2	3/	3/	3/
Pork:								
Chops	"	36.9	-0.3	-1.1	-11.9	-14.6	26.8	19.4
Bacon, sliced	"	41.0	0.2	-0.5	-10.3	4.3	36.2	34.9
Ham, sliced	"	49.3	-1.4	-3.9	-16.9	-16.2	9.3	6.2
Ham, whole	"	34.5	-1.1	-3.1	-13.3	- 8.7	31.7	25.9
Salt pork	"	22.1	0.5	-1.8	-10.5	- 7.9	32.3	43.5
Liver 2/	"	22.1	0	0	- 6.4	3/	3/	3/
Sausage 2/	"	38.1	-1.0	-0.8	- 0.5	3/	3/	3/
Bologna, big 2/	"	33.8	0.6	-1.5	0	3/	3/	3/
Lamb:								
Leg	"	39.9	0.5	-0.7	- 4.5	18.0	43.5	44.6
Rib chops	"	45.4	0.2	0.2	- 6.6	9.9	29.7	23.7

For footnotes, see page 14.

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO APRIL 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Apr. 17 1945	Percent Change to April 17, 1945 from					
		Mar. 13 1945	Apr. 18 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GNPR	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
	(cents)						
MEATS: (Continued)							
Poultry:							
Roasting chickens <u>4/</u> lb.	46.5	0.5	2.6	4.5	36.1	58.7	63.1
Fish:							
Fish (fresh, frozen) <u>4/</u> lb.	5/	- 1.3	0.7	6.3	49.0	84.0	117.1
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.4	- 0.8	- 2.9	- 2.5	7.3	49.0	82.8
Salmon, red "	40.8	1.2	- 5.3	- 1.4	2.0	54.5	76.6
DAIRY PRODUCTS:							
Butter lb.	49.9	0	- 0.4	-10.3	9.2	31.3	62.5
Cheese "	35.6	- 0.6	- 1.7	- 7.3	4.7	31.9	44.1
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	0	0	4.7	20.0	30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	0	0.7	7.4	21.8	31.8
Milk, evaporated 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. can	10.1	1.0	1.0	0	16.1	42.3	50.7
EGGS:							
Eggs, fresh <u>4/</u> doz.	49.5	- 0.6	9.6	- 1.5	21.2	43.6	54.2
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:							
Fresh fruits and vegetables:							
Fresh fruits:							
Apples lb.	11.8	3.5	0	- 8.5	57.3	126.9	168.2
Bananas "	10.4	1.0	- 7.1	-11.1	-13.3	57.6	70.5
Oranges doz.	45.7	2.9	1.3	8.3	45.5	67.4	45.1
Grapefruit <u>2/</u> ea.	9.4	4.4	19.0	20.5	49.2	2/	2/
Fresh vegetables:							
Beans, green lb.	20.0	- 1.0	- 2.4	14.9	49.3	42.9	177.8
Cabbage "	6.6	20.0	17.9	-42.6	46.7	94.1	69.2
Carrots bunch	8.0	2.6	11.1	- 2.4	21.2	33.3	73.9
Lettuce head	12.4	2.5	11.7	-24.8	34.8	47.6	47.6
Onions lb.	5.2	- 3.7	-47.5	-39.5	-23.5	44.4	44.4
Potatoes 15 lb.	79.7	3.0	26.1	-13.8	50.4	172.9	131.7
Spinach lb.	11.7	0.9	7.3	0.9	58.1	60.3	50.0
Sweetpotatoes "	9.5	1.1	-15.9	-46.9	75.9	90.0	72.7
Beets <u>2/</u> bunch	9.6	2.1	9.1	-17.2	2/	2/	2/
Canned fruits and vegetables:							
Canned fruits:							
Peaches #2 $\frac{1}{2}$ can	27.6	- 1.1	1.1	4.2	18.5	67.3	61.4
Pineapple "	26.9	0.4	- 2.2	- 6.3	- 0.7	28.7	28.1
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	0	0	2.9	46.9	2/	2/

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO APRIL 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Apr. 17 1945	Percent Change to April 17, 1945 from					
		Mar. 13 1945	Apr. 18 1944	May 16 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	(cents)	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR	"Little Steel" 1/*	Month Before War in Europe
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Continued)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green #2 can	13.0	- 0.8	- 1.5	-13.3	- 7.1	30.0	30.0
Corn "	14.8	0	2.8	5.7	13.8	38.3	42.3
Peas "	13.3	0	0	-14.2	-15.8	0.8	- 2.2
Tomatoes "	12.2	0.8	1.7	- 4.7	0.8	45.2	41.9
Soup, vegetable 2/ 11 oz. can	13.4	0	0	2.3	3/	3/	3/
Dried fruits and vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes lb.	17.7	1.1	5.4	7.9	43.9	84.4	101.1
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans lb.	11.4	0.9	7.5	14.0	26.7	75.4	96.6
Soup, dehydrated, 2/ chicken noodle oz.	3.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	3/	3/	3/
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee lb.	30.4	0.3	1.7	1.3	-5.2	46.9	36.3
Tea 1/4 lb.	24.1	0	1.3	12.1	7.6	36.9	40.1
Cocoa 2/ 1/2 lb.	10.4	0	4.0	13.0	2.0	14.3	20.9
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard lb.	18.8	0	0	- 1.6	5.0	102.2	89.9
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons lb.	20.2	1.0	0.5	0	2.0	78.8	72.6
In other containers "	24.6	0	- 0.4	1.2	- 4.7	34.4	21.8
Salad dressing pint	25.5	- 0.4	- 0.4	1.2	0.4	26.9	3/
Oleomargarine lb.	24.2	0.4	0.4	3.0	8.0	55.1	46.7
Peanut butter "	28.4	0.4	0	-12.6	5.6	58.7	58.7
Oil, cooking or salad 2/ pint	30.8	0.3	0.7	1.0	3/	3/	3/
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar lb.	6.7	0	- 1.5	- 1.5	- 2.9	31.4	28.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.8	0	0	1.3	6.8	16.2	15.3
Molasses 2/ 18 oz.	15.7	0	- 1.3	0.6	8.3	17.2	15.4
Apple butter 2/ 16 oz.	13.8	1.5	4.5	7.0	3/	3/	3/

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

2/ Not included in the index.

3/ Not priced in earlier period.

4/ Percent change computed on the index.

5/ Composite price not computed.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
 Bureau of Labor Statistics
 Washington 25, D. C.

COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD - MAY 1945

The BLS index indicates average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services, bought by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. The items covered represented 70 percent of the expenditures of families who had incomes ranging from \$1250 to \$2000 in 1934-35.

The index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods and forced changes in housing and eating away from home.

It does not measure changes in total "living costs" — that is, in the total amount families spend for living. Income taxes and bond subscriptions are not included.

For a description of the methods used in computing the index, ask for "Description of the Cost of Living Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics." For an appraisal of the factors enumerated above, see the report of the President's Committee on the Cost of Living, November 17, 1944.

Higher prices for foods, particularly fresh fruits and vegetables, accounted for the greater part of the 0.7 percent rise in retail prices of living essentials during the month ending May 15, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins reported today. "Costs of clothing also advanced, with continued shortages of lower-priced lines," she said. The increase from April to May this year is the largest monthly rise since May 1943.

"The Bureau of Labor Statistics cost of living index for May 15, 1945 is 128.0 percent of the 1935-39 average, the highest level reached by the Bureau's index during the war. The index is now 2.5 percent above the level of May 1943 when the President's 'Hold-the-line' order became effective. Food costs, however, are 2.9 percent lower than in May 1943.

"Average retail food costs rose 1.6 percent over the month, due primarily to advances for fresh fruits and vegetables. Prices of fresh fruits and vegetables moved up sharply (6.4 percent) due to a greater than seasonal advance in the prices of apples, carrots, onions and potatoes. Onion prices in May rose 36.5 percent at retail, following the unusually large increase of 50 percent in prices received by farmers in April.

"The widespread scarcity of meats continued, while the prices of meats obtainable were generally at the same level as in April. Approximately 70 percent of the independent stores had no beef and over 80 percent had no pork. Supplies of other meats were also limited. Prices for fresh and frozen fish rose 3.6 percent, with adequate supplies reported in most cities.

(more)

"Clothing costs advanced 0.3 percent in the month ending May 15, with most clothing articles showing small price advances, primarily because of continued shortages of lower-priced staple clothing. Work shirts, business shirts, shorts, and undershirts, as well as women's rayon hose, were difficult to obtain in most cities. Supplies of men's tropical worsted suits were limited, due to the diversion of all worsted yarns to military uses. There were a few minor price decreases for women's cotton dresses and rayon underwear, and for men's undershirts. In a few stores lower apparel prices were reported as retailers were able to secure some stocks of the lower-priced lines.

"Average retail prices of housefurnishings and miscellaneous goods and services rose slightly (0.1 percent) between mid-April and mid-May. Scattered increases were reported for Axminster rugs, furniture and cook stoves. The initial application of the new OPA formula for determining price ceilings at the retail level (MPR No. 580, effective May 4) was reflected in lower prices for bedroom furniture in a few stores and slightly higher prices in a few stores. Prices for sheets were higher over the month.

"Fuel, electricity and ice costs were up 0.2 percent, reflecting an average increase of 16 cents per ton for bituminous coal, allowed by the OPA where wage adjustments were granted to soft coal miners. Electricity rates declined in Buffalo, New York, and the usual seasonal reduction in New York City gas rates was reflected in May bills.

"Rents were not surveyed in May."

NOTE: General explanation of tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1, the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board, by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

The President's "Hold-the-Line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is, therefore, used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

TABLE 1 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	May 1945	Apr. 1945	May 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GIPR	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	128.0	127.1	125.1	125.1	116.0	100.8	98.6
Food	138.8	136.6	135.5	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing	144.4	144.0	137.4	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent	--	--	108.1	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	110.0	109.8	109.8	107.6	104.9	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	95.2	95.5	95.9	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	124.4	123.7	123.3	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	144.9	144.7	135.0	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	123.8	123.7	121.3	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to May 1945

ALL ITEMS	--	0.7	2.3	2.3	10.3	27.0	29.8
Food	--	1.6	2.4	-2.9	14.1	42.2	48.4
Clothing	--	0.3	5.1	12.9	14.4	42.7	44.0
Rent 1/	--	--	0.2	0.3	-1.5	3.1	3.8
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	0.2	0.2	2.2	4.9	9.1	12.8
Gas & electricity	--	-0.3	-0.7	-0.9	-1.4	-2.4	-3.8
Other fuels and ice	--	0.6	0.9	4.8	10.2	19.6	29.2
Housefurnishings	--	0.1	7.3	15.8	18.6	44.6	44.0
Miscellaneous	--	0.1	2.1	7.4	11.6	21.6	23.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.
1/Changes through March 15, 1945.

TABLE 2 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO MAY 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Apr. 1945	May 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line"*	GMFR	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	0.7	2.3	2.3	10.3	27.0	29.8
Baltimore, Md.	0.7	3.2	2.1	10.7	30.0	32.6
Birmingham, Ala.	0.2	1.8	4.1	10.4	28.9	33.0
Boston, Mass.	0.8	2.1	1.3	9.3	25.0	27.6
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.5	1.3	-0.9	6.0	25.3	29.6
Chicago, Ill.	1.1	3.0	2.7	9.8	26.4	29.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.8	2.7	3.4	10.4	28.5	31.6
Cleveland, Ohio	1.2	2.1	2.8	10.8	29.0	31.6
Denver, Colo.	1.2	2.3	2.9	10.7	28.0	29.8
Detroit, Mich.	0.9	2.5	1.3	8.6	27.7	31.0
Houston, Tex.	0.5	1.9	1.4	8.5	23.6	25.2
Kansas City, Mo.	0.5	2.0	2.9	10.5	28.2	27.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.2	2.0	3.5	10.2	27.0	29.6
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.6	1.4	1.7	6.9	21.7	24.3
New York, N. Y.	0.9	2.0	3.4	13.3	27.1	29.7
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.1	2.9	2.0	11.0	28.3	30.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.6	2.8	3.3	11.4	27.5	31.1
St. Louis, Mo.	0.9	1.9	1.9	9.3	25.0	28.7
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.7	1.8	2.8	12.0	29.4	32.6
Savannah, Ga.	0.4	2.0	3.0	12.4	34.0	36.9
Seattle, Wash.	0.5	2.5	2.0	9.0	29.4	31.7
Washington, D. C.	0.9	2.8	3.0	11.1	27.5	29.2

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 3 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, MAY 1945

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
AVERAGE	128.0	138.8	144.4	110.0	144.9	123.8
Atlanta, Ga.	--	138.3	--	116.6	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	130.9	146.9	147.9	108.8	139.5	123.3
Birmingham, Ala.	131.0	141.4	141.6	107.5	139.4	125.2
Boston, Mass.	123.9	133.0	141.4	120.0	143.9	117.7
Buffalo, N. Y.	127.7	137.1	141.5	104.6	138.7	125.7
Chicago, Ill.	127.9	139.5	139.6	105.9	138.4	122.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	128.0	137.5	146.3	107.4	141.7	125.2
Cleveland, Ohio	131.6	144.6	145.1	113.6	145.1	122.5
Denver, Colo.	128.0	141.8	135.8	104.4	155.1	122.6
Detroit, Mich.	129.0	135.0	142.1	113.4	157.6	129.6
Houston, Tex.	126.1	138.4	139.4	91.1	143.5	123.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	135.1	--	113.3	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	146.4	--	114.0	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	126.1	132.4	145.2	111.9	131.4	126.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	130.2	144.5	141.2	92.5	143.4	127.5
Manchester, N. H.	--	133.9	--	127.3	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	146.9	--	106.3	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	138.1	--	109.5	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	123.9	131.2	140.2	102.6	138.8	123.0
Mobile, Ala.	--	144.9	--	103.5	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	153.0	--	100.0	--	--
New York, N. Y.	128.4	139.6	149.7	113.9	134.3	125.9
Norfolk, Va.	--	142.4	--	120.3	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	127.3	137.7	145.7	109.2	144.0	120.8
Pittsburgh, Pa.	129.0	137.1	166.5	112.7	147.3	120.1
Portland, Maine	--	133.4	--	119.4	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	149.9	--	117.2	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	134.5	--	109.6	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	126.3	141.7	140.1	107.5	125.3	119.9
San Francisco, Calif.	131.7	145.7	142.5	92.8	130.7	132.3
Savannah, Ga.	135.9	151.7	144.2	113.0	155.8	130.2
Scranton, Pa.	--	139.8	--	111.0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	132.1	144.4	144.7	104.9	144.4	132.3
Washington, D. C.	127.4	139.7	154.3	109.2	140.2	127.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 4 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM APRIL 1945 TO MAY 1945

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscol-laneous
AVERAGE	0.7	1.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	--	0.7	--	0.6	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	0.7	1.4	0.5	0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Birmingham, Ala.	0.2	0.2	0.1	2.6	-0.1	0
Boston, Mass.	0.8	1.7	0.5	-0.2	0.2	0
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.5	1.8	0	-2.2	0	0
Chicago, Ill.	1.1	2.4	0.1	0.7	0.3	0
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.8	1.9	0.1	1.1	0	0
Cleveland, Ohio	1.2	2.8	-0.1	1.0	0.8	-0.1
Denver, Colo.	1.2	2.8	0	0.3	0.1	0
Detroit, Mich.	0.9	2.2	0.5	0.5	0.4	0
Houston, Tex.	0.5	1.2	0	0	-0.3	0
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	1.4	--	1.0	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	0.6	--	0.1	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.5	0.1	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0	-0.1	0.6
Manchester, N. H.	--	0.9	--	-0.1	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	1.2	--	0.8	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	2.8	--	0	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.6	1.3	0.1	0	0.1	0
Mobile, Ala.	--	0	--	0.8	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	0.3	--	-0.1	--	--
New York, N. Y.	0.9	2.0	0.1	-0.2	0	0
Norfolk, Va.	--	1.6	--	0.5	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.1	2.6	0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.6	1.3	0.3	0.6	1.2	0.1
Portland, Maine	--	1.6	--	0.2	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	1.7	--	0.1	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	1.0	--	0.9	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	0.9	1.9	0.1	0.2	0.1	0
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.7	-1.8	0.4	0.2	0.2	0
Savannah, Ga.	0.4	0.6	0.2	0	1.5	0.2
Scranton, Pa.	--	2.5	--	0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	0.5	1.0	0.2	1.0	1.4	0
Washington, D. C.	0.9	1.4	2.2	0.1	0.1	0

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 5 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Page 7
May 1945

Group	May 15 1945 This Month 1/	Apr. 17 1945 Last Month	May 16 1944 Year Ago	May 18 1943 "Hold the Line"*	May 12 1942 GMPR	Jan. 14 1941 "Little Steel" * 2/	Aug. 15 1939 Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL FOODS	138.8	136.6	135.5	143.0	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	109.0	108.9	108.1	107.6	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	131.7	130.8	130.3	138.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	118.6	118.6	118.9	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.5	112.4	111.9	125.5	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	135.9	135.9	134.4	141.6	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	156.4	154.3	155.9	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	218.7	211.9	200.5	200.5	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	133.5	133.5	133.5	136.9	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	140.7	139.9	127.1	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	182.5	173.3	172.8	190.8	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	195.0	183.3	183.1	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.2	130.0	129.2	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	168.5	167.9	163.5	158.0	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.6	124.6	124.4	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	123.9	123.8	123.3	126.3	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	126.5	126.4	126.5	127.6	127.1	95.3	95.6
Percent Change to May 15, 1945							
ALL FOODS	--	1.6	2.4	-2.9	14.1	41.9	48.4
Cereals & bakery products	--	0.1	0.8	1.3	3.6	14.9	16.7
Meats	--	0.7	1.1	-4.8	6.0	30.3	37.6
Beef & veal	--	0	-0.3	-9.6	-4.4	8.4	19.1
Pork	--	0.1	0.5	-10.4	-8.7	30.7	27.8
Lamb	--	0	1.1	-4.0	15.0	37.7	37.6
Chickens	--	1.4	0.3	6.0	37.9	60.9	65.3
Fish, fresh & canned	--	3.2	9.1	9.1	44.9	84.2	119.6
Dairy products	--	0	0	-2.5	8.3	27.0	43.4
Eggs	--	0.6	10.7	-1.0	21.9	44.5	55.1
Fruits & vegetables	--	5.3	5.6	-4.4	41.8	95.6	97.5
Fresh	--	6.4	6.5	-5.2	50.0	108.8	110.1
Canned	--	0.2	0.8	-0.7	6.1	42.5	42.1
Dried	--	0.4	3.1	6.6	28.4	69.2	86.6
Beverages	--	0	0.2	0.1	0	37.1	31.3
Fats & oils	--	0.1	0.5	-1.9	1.2	54.3	46.6
Sugar & sweets	--	0.1	0	-0.9	-0.5	32.7	32.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

TABLE 6 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
APRIL 17, 1945 TO MAY 15, 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Beverages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
AVERAGE	1.6	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.6	5.3	0.0	0.1	0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	0.7	-0.1	1.6	-0.1	4.2	0	0	0	0
Baltimore, Md.	1.4	0.2	1.3	0	1.3	3.2	-0.2	0.1	0.1
Birmingham, Ala.	0.2	0	0.1	0	0.3	0.7	0	0.1	0
Boston, Mass.	1.7	-0.3	1.5	0	-0.2	5.4	-0.1	0.4	0.2
Bridgeport, Conn.	1.5	-0.2	-0.1	0	-0.6	6.8	0	0	-0.3
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.8	0.3	0.3	0.2	1.3	6.5	0	0.2	-0.1
Butte, Mont.	1.7	0	1.6	0	8.4	2.9	-0.1	-0.1	0
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	1.6	0.2	-0.1	0	-0.5	6.0	-0.1	0	0.2
Charleston, S. C.	1.0	0	2.3	-0.1	3.4	0.8	0	-0.4	0
Chicago, Ill.	2.4	0.3	0.3	-0.1	-0.6	8.9	0	-0.3	-0.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.9	0.4	0.1	-0.1	0.7	6.0	0	0.2	-0.1
Cleveland, Ohio	2.8	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.3	9.1	0	0	0.2
Columbus, Ohio	1.8	0.3	0.1	0	2.0	8.3	0	0	0
Dallas, Texas	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.8	0	-0.1	-0.2
Denver, Colo.	2.8	0.9	0	0	0.2	8.9	-0.1	-0.2	0
Detroit, Mich.	2.2	0.1	0.5	0	0.3	8.2	0.2	0.1	0.5
Fall River, Mass.	1.4	0.1	0.8	0	1.8	4.7	-0.2	0.2	0
Houston, Texas	1.2	0.3	0.1	0	0.6	5.0	0	0	-1.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	1.4	0	-0.1	0.2	1.6	5.3	0	-0.1	0
Jackson, Miss.	-0.6	0	-0.1	0	6.4	-4.3	0	0.1	0
Jacksonville, Fla.	0.6	0	0.6	0	0.9	1.7	0.1	-0.1	0
Kansas City, Mo.	0.7	0.4	0	0	0.4	2.5	-0.3	0	0.1
Knoxville, Tenn.	0.8	0	0.4	-0.1	5.3	1.5	0	0.1	-0.1
Little Rock, Ark.	0.3	0	-0.1	0	2.3	0.7	0.1	0	0.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.1	0.5	0.4	-0.1	1.5	-0.7	0.1	1.0	0.3
Louisville, Ky.	1.0	0.1	1.8	-0.2	0.5	2.1	0	0	-0.1
Manchester, N. H.	0.9	-0.1	0.5	0	1.3	3.7	-0.2	0.1	0.2
Memphis, Tenn.	1.2	-0.3	0.6	-0.1	0.3	3.9	0.2	0	0.4
Milwaukee, Wis.	2.8	0.6	0.3	0	1.0	10.6	0	0	-0.1
Minneapolis, Minn.	1.3	0	0.1	0	1.0	6.2	0	0	0
Mobile, Ala.	0	0.1	0.1	0	0.1	0	-0.1	0	0.1
Newark, N. J.	1.4	0	1.0	-0.1	-0.5	4.4	0	0	-0.1
New Haven, Conn.	1.6	-0.1	0.4	0	0.9	6.3	0	0.7	-0.2
New Orleans, La.	0.3	0.2	-0.4	0	0.2	1.9	-0.1	0	0.1
New York, N. Y.	2.0	0.1	1.5	0.1	0	6.1	0.3	0.1	0.1
Norfolk, Va. 1/	1.6	-0.2	2.0	-0.1	2.1	4.2	0	-0.1	0
Omaha, Nebr.	2.8	0.4	0.2	0	0.8	11.0	0	0.1	0
Peoria, Ill.	0.9	0	0	-0.1	2.1	2.7	0	0.5	0
Philadelphia, Pa.	2.6	0.3	0.7	0	0.6	9.2	0.2	0	-0.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4	4.6	0.4	0.1	-0.1

For footnotes, see page 9.

TABLE 6 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
April 17, 1945 to May 15, 1945

Page 9
May 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Beverages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
Portland, Maine	1.6	0.0	-1.0	0.0	1.0	8.6	-0.2	0.3	0.4
Portland, Oreg.	1.7	0	0	-0.1	0.1	6.3	-0.2	-0.6	-0.1
Providence, R. I.	1.4	-0.2	0.5	-0.2	0	5.3	-0.3	0.2	0.1
Richmond, Va.	1.0	0	1.1	0	1.7	2.2	-0.2	0.1	0
Rochester, N. Y.	1.3	0.3	-0.1	0	1.5	5.9	0.3	0.2	0
St. Louis, Mo.	1.9	0.1	-0.2	0	0.6	6.9	0.1	0	0
St. Paul, Minn.	1.2	0.1	0.1	0	0.2	6.0	0	0.2	0
Salt Lake City, Utah	1.7	0.3	0.7	-0.1	0	6.1	0	0.2	-1.7
San Francisco, Calif.	-1.8	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	-5.6	0	0.2	0
Savannah, Ga.	0.6	-0.1	-0.5	0.1	1.4	3.7	0	-0.9	-0.1
Scranton, Pa.	2.5	0.1	-0.2	0	0.2	10.3	0	0	0
Seattle, Wash.	1.0	0	-0.1	0.1	-0.3	4.4	-0.2	0	-0.1
Springfield, Ill.	1.6	0	0.2	0	6.0	4.9	0	0.3	0.2
Washington, D. C.	1.4	0.4	1.0	0	0.4	3.3	0.1	-0.2	0.1
Wichita, Kans.	1.2	0.2	0	0	4.1	3.6	0.3	0.1	0.2
Winston-Salem, N. C.	1.4	0.1	-0.2	-0.2	11.6	3.6	-0.2	-0.1	0

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.
1/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO MAY 15, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent Change to May 15, 1945 from					
	May 15 1945	Apr. 17 1945	Apr. 17 1945	May 16 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMFR	"Little Steel" 2/ *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	138.8	136.6	1.6	2.4	-2.9	14.1	41.9	48.4
Atlanta, Ga.	138.3	137.3	0.7	2.1	-3.2	14.9	46.7	49.5
Baltimore, Md.	146.9	144.9	1.4	4.6	-3.7	16.8	50.1	55.1
Birmingham, Ala.	141.4	141.1	0.2	2.1	0.5	17.3	47.3	55.9
Boston, Mass.	133.0	130.8	1.7	2.6	-3.7	12.4	39.7	42.2
Bridgeport, Conn.	135.9	133.9	1.5	3.4	-6.1	12.0	40.8	45.8
Buffalo, N. Y.	137.1	134.7	1.8	2.2	-7.2	9.5	36.8	45.1
Butte, Mont.	136.5	134.2	1.7	2.6	-1.3	12.3	38.3	45.1
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	3/142.7	3/140.5	1.6	4.7	-1.1	15.2	48.8	--
Charleston, S. C.	134.8	133.5	1.0	3.1	-3.9	9.4	40.6	41.7
Chicago, Ill.	139.5	136.2	2.4	3.9	-1.1	14.6	42.1	51.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	137.5	135.0	1.9	2.8	-0.6	12.3	42.5	52.1
Cleveland, Ohio	144.6	140.7	2.3	1.9	-1.2	16.5	45.8	54.5
Columbus, Ohio	130.7	128.4	1.8	2.8	-4.1	10.2	39.9	48.4
Dallas, Tex.	134.2	134.4	-0.1	0.7	-2.9	14.9	44.9	46.3
Denver, Colo.	141.8	137.9	2.8	1.8	-1.4	15.4	49.6	53.0
Detroit, Mich.	135.0	132.1	2.2	2.0	-5.9	10.3	39.2	49.0
Fall River, Mass.	131.9	130.1	1.4	1.6	-6.1	9.2	35.3	38.3
Houston, Tex.	138.4	136.7	1.2	1.8	-3.7	9.9	34.9	41.5
Indianapolis, Ind.	135.1	133.3	1.4	2.2	-3.6	8.1	37.6	49.0
Jackson, Miss.	3/147.4	3/148.3	-0.6	5.0	-3.7	14.9	40.0	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	146.4	145.5	0.6	2.4	-3.4	14.9	48.2	52.8
Kansas City, Mo.	132.4	131.5	0.7	0.8	-4.0	11.4	43.3	44.7
Knoxville, Tenn.	3/157.8	3/156.5	0.8	3.3	0.8	20.5	62.5	--
Little Rock, Ark.	138.0	137.6	0.3	3.1	-2.7	12.0	44.4	46.8
Los Angeles, Calif.	144.5	144.4	0.1	1.8	-1.2	12.8	41.9	52.7
Louisville, Ky.	131.9	130.6	1.0	0.8	-6.8	7.6	38.1	43.2
Manchester, N. H.	133.9	132.7	0.9	1.9	-5.9	8.0	38.6	41.1
Memphis, Tenn.	146.9	145.2	1.2	2.7	-2.1	18.9	55.9	63.8
Milwaukee, Wis.	138.1	134.3	2.8	2.8	-2.7	15.3	44.0	51.6
Minneapolis, Minn.	131.2	129.5	1.3	1.3	-2.7	8.5	32.5	38.1
Mobile, Ala.	144.9	144.9	0	1.0	-3.3	14.3	48.0	51.7
Newark, N. J.	139.9	138.0	1.4	1.5	-1.8	15.7	41.6	46.3
New Haven, Conn.	136.3	134.1	1.6	2.4	-6.5	13.0	42.4	45.5
New Orleans, La.	153.0	152.5	0.3	3.1	0.3	18.6	50.1	56.8
New York, N. Y.	139.6	136.8	2.0	1.9	-2.6	18.3	40.3	45.7

For footnotes, see page 11.

TABLE 7 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO MAY 15, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent Change to May 15, 1945 from					
	May 15 1945	Apr. 17 1945	Apr. 17 1945	May 16 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR	"Little Steel" 2/ *	Month Before War in Europe
Norfolk, Va. 4/	142.4	140.1	1.6	-0.2	-7.1	12.9	48.6	52.1
Omaha, Nebr.	133.9	130.3	2.8	2.1	-2.9	11.7	36.8	45.1
Peoria, Ill.	142.1	140.9	0.9	2.8	-4.4	10.2	43.5	52.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	137.7	134.2	2.6	3.7	-2.8	15.3	44.9	48.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	137.1	135.4	1.3	1.9	-3.7	12.9	39.9	48.2
Portland, Maine	133.4	131.3	1.6	1.5	-4.9	9.6	40.0	39.1
Portland, Oreg.	149.9	147.4	1.7	3.6	-2.4	11.4	47.4	56.0
Providence, R. I.	136.0	134.1	1.4	3.1	-3.5	11.4	41.2	45.1
Richmond, Va.	134.5	133.2	1.0	2.0	-4.9	11.2	43.5	45.9
Rochester, N. Y.	135.4	133.7	1.3	4.6	-3.0	10.7	35.5	46.7
St. Louis, Mo.	141.7	139.0	1.9	2.8	-2.1	14.5	42.8	51.1
St. Paul, Minn.	130.1	128.5	1.2	1.7	-3.5	9.6	31.9	38.0
Salt Lake City, Utah	142.5	140.1	1.7	2.4	-1.5	14.7	46.2	50.6
San Francisco, Calif.	145.7	148.4	-1.8	0.7	-1.6	16.1	46.3	55.3
Savannah, Ga.	151.7	150.8	0.6	1.5	-1.4	16.4	50.9	56.9
Scranton, Pa.	139.8	136.4	2.5	3.2	-5.7	15.5	43.4	51.8
Seattle, Wash.	144.4	143.0	1.0	2.2	-3.9	11.2	43.0	52.8
Springfield, Ill.	144.3	142.0	1.6	2.7	-2.8	12.7	50.0	53.3
Washington, D. C.	139.7	137.8	1.4	4.2	-2.0	15.7	43.0	48.5
Wichita, Kans.	3/151.7	3/149.9	1.2	4.3	0.7	17.6	56.1	--
Winston-Salem, N. C.	3/139.9	3/138.0	1.4	4.2	-0.1	17.3	49.3	--

* See general explanations of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

3/ June 1940 equals 100.

4/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO MAY 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices May 15 1945	Percent Change to May 15, 1945 from					
		Apr. 17 1945	May 16 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
	(Cents)						
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.2	-0.2	-1.5	5.6	24.4	79.3
Macaroni	lb.	15.8	0	0.6	3.3	11.3	12.9
Wheat cereal 2/	28 oz.	23.3	0.4	0	-1.7	- 3.3	- 3.7
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.6	1.5	1.5	-2.9	- 8.3	- 5.7
Corn meal	lb.	6.4	0	4.9	14.3	36.2	60.0
Rice 2/	"	12.8	0	0	0.8	4.1	62.0
Rolled oats	"	10.3	0	15.7	18.4	19.8	45.1
Flour, pancake 2/	20 oz.	12.3	0	1.7	16.0	3/	3/
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	0	1.1	-1.1	1.1	12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.6	0	-1.0	-2.0	1.1	10.3
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	0	0	2.1	10.0
Vanilla cookies	"	28.7	-0.7	0.7	-1.4	3.6	14.3
Soda crackers	"	18.9	0	-0.5	6.2	15.2	26.0
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	40.2	-0.5	-3.8	-14.1	- 9.0	4.1
Rib roast	"	32.6	-0.3	-3.3	-13.5	- 4.1	3.5
Chuck roast	"	27.8	-0.7	-4.1	-12.6	- 3.8	10.3
Stew meat 2/	"	29.3	0	-7.0	-16.3	3/	3/
Liver	"	36.6	-0.8	-1.3	- 2.4	3/	3/
Hamburger	"	27.3	-0.4	-2.5	-15.2	3/	3/
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	43.4	-0.5	-4.6	-15.4	-19.0	- 4.0
Roast, boned and rolled 2/	"	34.5	-0.3	-2.0	- 8.5	3/	3/
Pork:							
Chops	"	36.9	0	-1.1	-11.9	-14.6	26.8
Bacon, sliced	"	40.9	-0.2	-0.5	-10.5	4.1	35.9
Ham, sliced	"	43.2	-0.2	-3.5	-17.0	-16.3	9.1
Ham, whole	"	34.5	0	-2.5	-13.3	- 8.7	31.7
Salt pork	"	22.2	0.5	-1.3	-10.1	- 7.5	32.9
Liver 2/	"	22.0	-0.5	-0.5	- 6.8	3/	3/
Sausage 2/	"	38.0	-0.3	-0.5	- 0.8	3/	3/
Bologna, big 2/	"	33.9	0	-3.7	0.3	3/	3/
Lamb:							
Leg	"	39.7	-0.5	-0.8	- 5.0	17.5	42.8
Rib chops	"	45.1	-0.7	-0.2	- 7.2	9.2	28.9

For footnotes, see page 14.

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO MAY 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices May 15 1945	Percent Change to May 15, 1945 from					
		Apr. 17 1945	May 16 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
(Cents)							
MEATS: (Continued)							
Poultry:							
Roasting chickens 4/ lb.	47.1	1.4	0.3	6.0	37.9	60.9	65.3
Fish:							
Fish (fresh, frozen) 4/ lb.	5/	3.6	10.5	10.2	54.4	90.7	125.0
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.5	0.4	- 2.5	- 2.1	7.8	49.7	83.6
Salmon, red "	40.2	- 1.5	- 6.3	- 2.9	0.5	52.3	74.0
DAIRY PRODUCTS:							
Butter lb.	49.9	0	- 0.2	-10.3	9.2	31.3	62.5
Cheese "	35.6	0	- 1.1	- 7.3	4.7	31.9	44.1
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	0	0	4.7	20.0	30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	0	0.7	7.4	21.8	31.8
Milk, evaporated 14 1/2 oz. can	10.1	0	1.0	0	16.1	42.3	50.7
EGGS:							
Eggs, fresh 4/ doz.	49.7	0.6	10.7	- 1.0	21.9	44.5	55.1
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:							
Fresh fruits and vegetables:							
Fresh fruits:							
Apples lb.	12.3	4.2	4.2	- 4.7	64.0	136.5	179.5
Bananas "	10.4	0	- 8.8	-11.1	-13.3	57.6	70.5
Oranges doz.	48.1	5.3	2.8	14.0	53.2	76.2	52.7
Grapefruit 2/ ea.	10.1	7.4	16.1	29.5	60.3	3/	3/
Fresh vegetables:							
Beans, green lb.	18.9	- 5.5	- 3.1	8.6	41.0	35.0	162.5
Cabbage "	5.8	-12.1	3.6	-49.6	28.9	70.6	48.7
Carrots bunch	9.0	12.5	7.1	9.8	36.4	50.0	95.7
Lettuce head	12.0	- 3.2	- 2.4	-27.3	30.4	42.9	42.9
Onions lb.	7.1	36.5	-21.1	-17.4	4.4	97.2	97.2
Potatoes 15 lb.	88.2	10.7	27.1	- 4.6	66.4	202.1	156.4
Spinach lb.	12.4	6.0	34.8	6.9	67.6	69.9	59.0
Sweetpotatoes "	10.0	5.3	-18.0	-44.1	85.2	100.0	81.8
Beets 2/ bunch	10.9	13.5	3.8	- 6.0	3/	3/	3/
Canned fruits and vegetables:							
Canned fruits:							
Peaches #2 1/2 can	27.4	- 0.7	0.4	3.4	17.6	66.1	60.2
Pineapple "	26.7	- 0.7	- 2.9	- 7.0	- 1.5	27.8	27.1
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	0	0	2.9	46.9	3/	3/

For footnotes, see page 14.

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO MAY 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices May 15 1945 (Cents)	Percent Change to May 15, 1945 from					
		Apr. 17 1945	May 16 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Continued)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green #2 can	13.1	0.8	0	-12.7	- 6.4	31.0	31.0
Corn "	14.8	0	2.8	5.7	13.8	38.3	42.3
Peas "	13.3	0	0.8	-14.2	-15.8	0.8	-2.2
Tomatoes "	12.2	0	2.5	- 4.7	0.8	45.2	41.9
Soup, vegetable 2/ 11 oz. can	13.4	0	0	2.3	3/	3/	3/
Dried fruits and vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes lb.	15.0	1.7	5.3	9.8	46.3	87.5	104.5
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans lb.	11.4	0	7.5	14.0	26.7	75.4	96.6
Soup, dehydrated, 2/ chicken noodle oz.	3.8	0	2.7	2.7	3/	3/	3/
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee lb.	30.4	0	1.3	1.3	5.2	46.9	36.3
Ten 1/4 lb.	24.2	0.4	1.7	12.6	8.0	37.5	40.7
Cocoa 2/ 1/2 lb.	10.4	0	3.0	13.0	2.0	14.3	20.9
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard lb.	18.8	0	0.5	- 1.6	5.0	102.2	89.9
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons lb.	20.2	0	0.5	0	2.0	78.8	72.6
In other containers "	24.6	0	-0.4	1.2	- 4.7	34.4	21.8
Salad dressing pint	25.6	0.4	0.4	1.6	0.8	27.4	3/
Oleomargarine lb.	24.2	0	0	3.0	8.0	55.1	46.7
Peanut butter "	28.4	0	-0.4	-12.6	5.6	58.7	58.7
Oil, cooking or salad 2/ pint	30.8	0	2.3	1.0	3/	3/	3/
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar lb.	6.7	0	-1.5	- 1.5	- 2.9	31.4	28.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.8	0	0	1.3	6.8	16.2	15.3
Molasses 2/ 13 oz.	15.8	0.6	0	1.3	9.0	17.9	16.2
Apple butter 2/ 16 oz.	13.9	0.7	5.3	7.8	3/	3/	3/

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

2/ Not included in the index.

3/ Not priced in earlier period.

4/ Percent change computed on the index.

5/ Composite price not computed.

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COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD - JUNE 1945

AUG 5

The FLS index indicates average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services bought by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. The items covered represented 70 percent of the expenditures of families who had incomes ranging from \$1250 to \$2000 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods and forced changes in housing and eating away from home.

It does not measure changes in total "living costs" — that is, in the total amount families spend for living. Income taxes and bond subscriptions are not included.

For a description of the methods used in computing the index, ask for "Description of the Cost of Living Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics." For an appraisal of the factors enumerated above, see the report of the President's Committee on the Cost of Living, November 17, 1944.

Retail prices paid by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities rose 0.7 percent between mid-May and mid-June, Secretary of Labor, L. B. Schwellenbach reported today on the basis of the monthly survey of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Higher prices for fresh fruits and vegetables and eggs, together with continued increases for clothing and housefurnishings brought the living costs in June 1945 to the highest level since the spring of 1921.

Since August 1939, the month before the outbreak of war in Europe, prices of living essentials have increased 30.8 percent and are 2.9 percent higher than in June 1944. The Bureau of Labor Statistics' cost of living index for June 15, 1945 is 129.0 percent of the 1935-39 average.

Prices of the family food budget rose 1.7 percent between May 15 and June 15, the second consecutive month that food prices have gone up by more than one and a half percent. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices continued to advance sharply (6.5 percent), as larger than seasonal increases were reported for oranges, lettuce and sweetpotatoes, and large contraseasonal movements were reported for cabbage and onions. With a sharp increase in farm prices for cabbage which is not under price control and the removal of OPA retail price control margins, the average price rose from 5.8 cents in mid-May to 9.0 cents in mid-June. Prices for onions rose 24 percent.

Egg prices advanced 3.1 percent, beginning their usual upward seasonal movement. Although prices of meats did not change over the month, meats were found in fewer stores in mid-June than at any time in the past 15 months. More than 85 percent of the independent grocers had no veal or pork, and three-fourths had no beef or lamb. The average cost of all food at retail was 51 percent above the level of August 15, 1939, but 1.3 percent lower than in May 1943, the highest level for food during the war.

Clothing prices moved upward 0.6 percent between May and June, the largest advance in any month so far this year. Stocks of medium and inexpensive apparel were reported to be at the lowest point during the war. There were sharp advances in the prices of tropical weight wool suits in some cities, reflecting both the disappearance of the lower-priced lines and the reappearance of prewar quality suits at prices considerably higher than when last stocked. This season's prices for men's cotton slacks and women's cotton frocks followed the upward movement of most cotton apparel. Average prices of business shirts, pajamas, shorts and housedresses also increased but supplies were limited, although some retailers in most of the large cities reported receiving small supplies of low-price preticketed merchandise produced under the WPB-OPA low-cost clothing program. Work clothing, still hard to get, was higher in price and men's straw hats cost more than a year ago.

Prices of housefurnishings were up (0.3 percent) from mid-May to mid-June. The effect of the new OPA formula (MPR No. 580) for establishing price ceilings at the retail level was again reflected, as in May, in numerous changes in prices of housefurnishings. Average costs for living-room and bedroom furniture, cook stoves and dinnerware were higher, despite many small price decreases in a number of cities.

Fuel, electricity, and ice costs showed little change during the month ending June 15. Rate reductions lowering the average cost of gas to domestic consumers in Atlanta and a rebate on most June electric bills in Portland, Oregon were offset by price increases for bituminous coal in a few cities.

On the average, there was no change in rents in large cities. However, rent costs varied slightly in a number of cities, with the largest increase in Scranton (0.6 percent from December 1944 to June 1945) where rents are not under OPA price control. Average rents in this city are still below the 1935-39 average. The largest decrease occurred in Portland, Oregon (0.6 percent) for the corresponding period. The shortage of housing continued to be acute, especially in war centers.

Cost of miscellaneous goods and services remained relatively stable (0.1 percent increase). Prices for newspapers in Cleveland, Milwaukee, and Portland, Oregon were raised and the cost of medical services, men's haircuts, and beauty shop services rose in a few cities.

NOTE: General explanation of tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1 (the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board), by assuming an even rate of change from December 14, 1940 to the next pricing date.

GMPR - General Maximum Price Regulation - Issued on May 18, 1942 and established retail price ceilings at their highest levels in March 1942.

The President's "Hold-the-Line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is, therefore, used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

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TABLE 1 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	June 1945	May 1945	June 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line"*	GMPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	129.0	128.1R	125.4	125.1	116.0	100.8	98.6
Food	141.1	138.8	135.7	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing	145.4	144.6R	138.0	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent	108.3	--	108.1	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	110.0	110.0	109.6	107.6	104.9	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	95.2	95.2	95.6	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	124.5	124.4	123.2	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	145.8	145.4R	138.4	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	124.0	123.9R	121.7	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to June 1945

ALL ITEMS	--	0.7	2.9	3.1	11.2	28.0	30.8
Food	--	1.7	4.0	-1.3	16.0	44.6	50.9
Clothing	--	0.6	5.4	13.7	15.2	43.7	45.0
Rent	--	--	0.2	0.3	-1.5	3.1	3.8
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	0	0.4	2.2	4.9	9.1	12.8
Gas & electricity	--	0	-0.4	-0.9	-1.4	-2.4	-3.8
Other fuels & ice	--	0.1	1.1	4.9	10.3	19.7	29.3
Housefurnishings	--	0.3	5.3	16.5	19.3	45.5	44.9
Miscellaneous	--	0.1	1.9	7.5	11.8	21.8	23.5

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

R = Revised.

TABLE 2 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO JUNE 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	May 1945	June 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line"*	GMPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	0.7	2.9	3.1	11.2	28.0	30.8
Baltimore, Md.	1.5	4.2	3.7	12.4	32.0	34.7
Birmingham, Ala.	0.6	2.1	5.1	11.4	30.1	34.2
Boston, Mass.	1.3	3.0	2.6	10.7	26.6	29.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.3	2.5	0.5	7.4	27.0	31.4
Chicago, Ill.	0.2	2.7	3.0	10.0	26.7	29.9
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.1	2.2	4.5	11.6	29.9	33.0
Cleveland, Ohio	0.5	2.6	3.4	11.4	29.7	32.3
Denver, Colo.	0	3.0	3.2	11.1	28.4	30.2
Detroit, Mich.	1.3	3.3	2.7	10.1	29.5	32.8
Houston, Tex.	0.4	2.5	1.8	9.0	24.2	25.8
Kansas City, Mo.	0.6	2.9	3.8	11.4	29.2	28.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.2	2.9	3.7	10.5	27.3	29.9
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.6	2.0	2.3	7.5	22.4	25.0
New York, N. Y.	0.9	3.0	4.4	14.5	28.4	31.0
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.4	2.4	2.4	11.4	28.8	30.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.2	3.2	4.5	12.7	29.0	32.6
St. Louis, Mo.	0.8	2.5	2.7	10.2	26.1	29.9
San Francisco, Calif.	0.6	2.7	3.6	12.8	30.4	33.6
Savannah, Ga.	0.4	2.0	3.4	12.8	34.5	37.4
Seattle, Wash.	-0.1	2.5	1.9	8.9	29.3	31.6
Washington, D. C.	0.7	3.3	3.9	12.0	28.6	30.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 3 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM MAY 1945 TO JUNE 1945

Page 5
June 1945

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
AVERAGE	0.7	1.7	0.6	0.0	0.3	0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	--	1.3	--	-1.1	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	1.5	3.1	1.1	0.1	1.1	0.1
Birmingham, Ala.	0.6	1.6	0.1	0	0	0
Boston, Mass.	1.3	2.9	0.7	0	0.3	-0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.3	2.3	1.8	0.2	1.9	0
Chicago, Ill.	0.2	0.5	0.1	0	0.1	0
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.1	2.3	0.5	0	0.6	0.2
Cleveland, Ohio	0.5	1.2	0.1	0	0	0.2
Denver, Colo.	0	0.1	0.1	0	0.5	-0.2
Detroit, Mich.	1.3	3.1	1.0	-0.1	1/-1.2	0.1
Houston, Tex.	0.4	0.8	0.6	0	0.3	0
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	1.7	--	0.1	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	0.8	--	0	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0.6	1.5	0.1	0	1.7	0.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.2	0.2	0.3	0	0.6	0
Manchester, N. H.	--	2.6	--	0.2	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	2.0	--	0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	2.1	--	0.5	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.6	1.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Mobile, Ala.	--	0.7	--	0.5	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	-0.4	--	0.2	--	--
New York, N. Y.	0.9	1.8	1.0	0	0.4	0.5
Norfolk, Va.	--	0.7	--	0	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.4	0.8	-0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.2	3.0	0.2	-0.7	0.1	0
Portland, Maine	--	1.3	--	-0.1	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	0.3	--	2.6	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	1.2	--	0	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	0.8	1.6	0.4	0.1	0.4	0
San Francisco, Calif.	0.6	1.2	0.6	0	0.5	0.1
Savannah, Ga.	0.4	0.9	0.2	0	0.1	0
Scranton, Pa.	--	3.4	--	0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	-0.1	-0.3	0.4	0	0.1	0
Washington, D. C.	0.7	1.4	0.8	0.4	0.6	0.2

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Decrease reflects downward adjustment in costs of some housefurnishing articles of prewar quality, based on additional information obtained after these goods returned to retail markets in 1944 and spring of 1945.

TABLE 3A - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM MARCH 1945 TO JUNE 1945

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electricity & Ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
AVERAGE	1.7	3.8	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.3
Atlanta, Ga.	0.9	2.3	0.6	--	-0.5	3.4	-0.4
Baltimore, Md.	2.4	5.1	1.4	--	-0.5	1.9	0.2
Birmingham, Ala.	1.5	2.8	0.1	0.2	2.6	-0.4	1.2
Boston, Mass.	2.1	4.7	1.4	1/ 0.1	-0.5	1.3	-0.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.7	3.7	2.7	I/ 0.2	-2.2	1.9	0
Chicago, Ill.	1.7	3.9	0.6	I/ 0	0.7	0.6	0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	2.3	4.8	1.4	--	1.1	1.5	-0.2
Cleveland, Ohio	2.0	4.9	0.3	1/-0.2	1.0	1.4	0.2
Denver, Colo.	1.9	3.7	0.1	I/ 0	0.3	0.3	1.6
Detroit, Mich.	2.7	5.9	3.0	I/ 0.2	0.2	2/-0.1	0.3
Houston, Tex.	1.5	3.5	1.1	--	0	0.2	0.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	1.6	4.0	0.1	1/-0.1	1.1	2/-1.4	0.6
Jacksonville, Fla.	1.5	3.3	0.4	1/ 0.2	0.1	2.3	0.1
Kansas City, Mo.	1.6	3.1	1.2	I/-0.2	1.5	3.3	0.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.0	1.5	0.9	I/ 0.2	0	1.3	1.0
Manchester, N. H.	1.9	3.5	0.9	--	0.3	1.5	0.3
Memphis, Tenn.	1.7	3.7	0.7	--	0.8	1.2	0.2
Milwaukee, Wis.	2.3	5.4	0.1	0	0.5	0.8	0.4
Minneapolis, Minn.	1.2	2.9	0.7	--	0.4	0.1	0.3
Mobile, Ala.	0.7	1.4	0.3	1/ 0.1	1.0	0.1	0
New Orleans, La.	0.8	0.9	0.3	I/-0.1	0.2	3/	1.5
New York, N. Y.	2.0	4.2	1.4	I/ 0	-0.2	0.9	0.6
Norfolk, Va.	0.8	1.4	1.7	I/ 0.1	0.5	0	0.2
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.4	3.4	0.4	--	-0.9	0	0.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	2.3	5.5	0.2	1/-0.1	-0.1	1.6	0.1
Portland, Maine	1.0	2.9	0.3	1/-0.2	-0.8	0.1	-0.1
Portland, Oreg.	1.7	3.1	0.4	1/-0.6	3.2	0.7	1.3
Richmond, Va.	0.9	1.9	-0.1	--	0.9	1.4	0
St. Louis, Mo.	2.0	4.3	1.0	--	0.5	1.5	0
San Francisco, Calif.	0.7	0.9	1.0	--	0.2	0.6	0.6
Savannah, Ga.	0.8	1.6	0.5	1/ 0.2	0	2.6	-0.2
Scranton, Pa.	3.1	6.3	0.7	I/ 0.6	0	0.8	0.3
Seattle, Wash.	0.5	0.7	1.4	--	1.0	2.0	-0.1
Washington, D. C.	2.0	3.5	3.8	1/ 0	-0.1	0.1	0.9

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Change from December 1944.

2/ Decrease reflects downward adjustment in costs of some housefurnishing articles of prewar quality, based on additional information obtained after these goods returned to retail markets in 1944 and spring of 1945.

3/ Not available. Insufficient data.

TABLE 4 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for April and May revised.)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
AVERAGE							
April	127.1	136.6	144.1	--	109.8	144.9	123.8
May	128.1	138.8	144.6	--	110.0	145.4	123.9
June	129.0	141.1	145.4	108.3	110.0	145.8	124.0
Atlanta, Ga.							
April	--	137.3	--	--	115.9	--	--
May	--	138.3	--	--	116.6	--	--
June	129.9	140.1	141.5	--	115.3	145.3	130.8
Baltimore, Md.							
April	130.0	144.9	147.2	--	108.7	150.1	123.4
May	131.0	146.9	148.2	--	108.7	150.7	123.4
June	132.9	151.4	149.8	--	108.8	152.3	123.5
Birmingham, Ala.							
April	131.0	141.1	141.6	--	104.8	139.5	126.6
May	131.4	141.4	141.7	--	107.5	139.4	126.7
June	132.2	143.7	141.8	122.6	107.5	139.4	126.7
Boston, Mass.							
April	123.0	130.8	140.8	--	120.2	143.8	117.7
May	123.9	133.0	141.7	--	120.1	144.4	117.6
June	125.5	136.8	142.7	105.1	120.1	144.9	117.5
Buffalo, N. Y.							
April	127.1	134.7	141.8	--	106.9	138.7	125.7
May	127.8	137.1	142.2	--	104.6	138.8	125.7
June	129.4	140.2	144.8	115.0	104.8	141.5	125.7
Chicago, Ill.							
April	126.5	136.2	139.5	--	105.2	138.0	122.3
May	127.9	139.5	139.7	--	105.9	138.6	122.3
June	128.2	140.2	139.9	114.8	105.9	138.8	122.3
Cincinnati, Ohio							
April	127.0	135.0	146.4	--	106.2	142.3	125.0
May	123.0	137.5	146.8	--	107.4	142.9	124.8
June	129.4	140.6	147.6	--	107.4	143.8	125.0
Cleveland, Ohio							
April	130.1	140.7	145.5	--	112.5	144.3	122.6
May	131.7	144.6	145.4	--	113.6	145.9	122.6
June	132.3	146.4	145.5	115.7	113.6	145.9	122.8

For footnotes, see page 10.

TABLE 4 (continued) - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for April and May revised.)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
Denver, Colo.							
April	126.5	137.9	135.8	--	104.1	154.9	122.6
May	128.4	141.8	135.7	--	104.4	155.0	124.3
June	128.4	142.0	135.9	109.5	104.4	155.8	124.1
Detroit, Mich.							
April	127.8	132.1	141.6	--	112.8	157.1	129.6
May	129.1	135.0	142.6	--	113.4	158.0	129.8
June	130.8	139.2	144.0	115.1	113.3	<u>1/</u> 156.1	129.9
Houston, Tex.							
April	125.6	136.7	139.6	--	91.1	144.0	123.5
May	126.2	138.4	139.8	--	91.1	143.7	123.8
June	126.7	139.5	140.6	--	91.1	144.1	123.8
Indianapolis, Ind.							
April	--	133.3	--	--	112.2	--	--
May	--	135.1	--	--	113.3	--	--
June	129.5	137.4	137.6	115.8	113.4	<u>1/</u> 148.0	127.4
Jacksonville, Fla.							
April	--	145.5	--	--	113.9	--	--
May	--	146.4	--	--	114.0	--	--
June	135.6	147.5	142.0	113.4	114.0	151.1	137.3
Kansas City, Mo.							
April	125.6	131.5	144.4	--	110.2	132.2	126.4
May	126.3	132.4	145.7	--	111.9	133.3	126.5
June	127.1	134.4	145.9	109.6	111.9	135.5	126.7
Los Angeles, Cal.							
April	130.0	144.4	141.6	--	92.5	144.0	126.7
May	130.3	144.5	141.6	--	92.5	144.1	127.5
June	130.5	144.8	142.0	110.9	92.5	145.0	127.5
Manchester, N. H.							
April	--	132.7	--	--	127.6	--	--
May	--	133.9	--	--	127.7	--	--
June	131.3	137.4	147.8	--	127.9	148.4	122.6
Memphis, Tenn.							
April	--	145.2	--	--	105.5	--	--
May	--	146.9	--	--	106.3	--	--
June	132.0	149.8	148.7	--	106.3	139.7	120.2

For footnotes, see page 10.

TABLE 4 (continued) - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for April and May revised.)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
Milwaukee, Wis.							
April	--	134.3	--	--	109.5	--	--
May	--	138.1	--	--	109.5	--	--
June	127.0	141.0	135.9	103.8	110.0	143.6	120.0
Minneapolis, Minn.							
April	123.2	129.5	140.2	--	102.6	133.3	123.0
May	123.9	131.2	140.5	--	102.6	138.9	123.0
June	124.6	133.0	141.1	--	103.0	138.9	123.0
Mobile, Ala.							
April	--	144.9	--	--	102.7	--	--
May	--	144.9	--	--	103.2	--	--
June	129.3	145.9	138.6	115.2	103.7	137.1	119.8
New Orleans, La.							
April	--	152.5	--	--	100.1	--	--
May	--	153.0	--	--	100.0	--	--
June	132.4	152.4	139.1	107.2	100.2	2/	121.8
New York, N. Y.							
April	127.4	136.8	142.8	--	114.1	134.5	126.0
May	128.5	139.6	150.1	--	113.9	134.9	126.0
June	129.7	142.1	151.6	103.5	113.9	135.4	126.6
Norfolk, Va.							
April	--	140.1	--	--	119.7	--	--
May	--	142.4	--	--	120.3	--	--
June	132.3	143.4	143.8	109.2	120.3	142.5	131.5
Philadelphia, Pa.							
April	126.0	134.2	145.4	--	109.4	144.7	121.0
May	127.3	137.7	145.9	--	109.2	144.1	120.8
June	127.8	138.8	145.5	--	109.5	144.2	121.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.							
April	128.1	135.4	166.0	--	112.0	145.7	120.0
May	128.9	137.1	166.4	--	112.7	147.6	120.0
June	130.5	141.2	166.7	107.5	111.9	147.8	120.0
Portland, Me.							
April	--	131.3	--	--	119.2	--	--
May	--	133.4	--	--	118.3	--	--
June	126.7	135.2	145.6	106.4	118.2	141.2	122.5

For footnotes, see page 10.

TABLE 4 (continued) - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for April and May revised.)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electricity & Ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Portland, Ore.							
April	--	147.4	--	--	117.1	--	--
May	--	149.9	--	--	117.2	--	--
June	135.5	150.3	142.6	114.7	120.3	146.1	130.4
Richmond, Va.							
April	--	133.2	--	--	108.6	--	--
May	--	134.5	--	--	109.6	--	--
June	125.2	136.1	144.4	--	109.6	144.7	118.9
St. Louis, Mo.							
April	125.3	139.0	140.1	--	107.3	125.8	119.9
May	126.4	141.7	140.5	--	107.7	126.5	119.9
June	127.4	144.0	141.0	--	107.8	127.0	119.9
San Francisco, Cal.							
April	132.8	148.4	142.1	--	92.6	130.5	133.0
May	131.9	145.7	142.7	--	92.8	130.7	133.0
June	132.7	147.5	143.5	--	92.8	131.3	133.1
Savannah, Ga.							
April	135.2	150.8	143.9	--	113.0	153.6	129.4
May	135.8	151.7	144.2	--	113.0	156.1	129.7
June	136.4	153.1	144.5	115.9	113.0	156.3	129.7
Scranton, Pa.							
April	--	136.4	--	--	111.0	--	--
May	--	139.8	--	--	111.0	--	--
June	128.2	144.5	147.9	97.8	111.0	141.7	115.6
Seattle, Wash.							
April	131.4	143.0	144.5	--	103.9	142.6	132.3
May	132.1	144.4	145.1	--	104.9	145.1	132.2
June	132.0	144.0	145.7	--	104.9	145.3	132.2
Washington, D. C.							
April	126.4	137.8	151.3	--	109.1	139.9	127.4
May	127.6	139.7	155.0	--	109.2	139.9	128.2
June	128.5	141.6	156.3	100.3	109.6	140.8	128.4

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Decrease reflects downward adjustment in costs of some housefurnishing articles of prewar quality, based on additional information obtained after these goods returned to retail markets in 1944 and spring of 1945.

2/ Not available. Insufficient data.

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June 1945

TABLE 5 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	June 12 1945 This Month 1/	May 15 1945 Last Month	June 13 1944 Year Ago	May 18 1943 "Hold the Line"*	May 12 1942 GMPR *	Jan. 14 1941 "Little Steel" * 2/	Aug. 15 1939 Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL FOODS	141.1	138.8	135.7	143.0	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	109.1	109.0	108.4	107.6	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	131.6	131.6R	129.8	138.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	118.5	118.6	118.8	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.6	112.5	112.0	125.5	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	136.0	135.9	134.8	141.6	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	156.8	156.3R	154.1	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	215.6	218.7	196.7	200.5	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	133.4	133.5	133.5	136.9	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	145.1	140.7	129.1	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	192.6	182.5	174.0	190.8	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	207.7	195.0	184.6	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.1	130.2	129.2	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	168.8	168.5	164.1	158.0	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.6	124.6	124.3	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	123.9	123.9	123.1	126.3	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	126.4	126.5	126.5	127.6	127.1	95.3	95.6

Percent Change to June 12, 1945

ALL FOODS	--	1.7	4.0	- 1.3	16.0	44.3	50.9
Cereals & bakery products	--	0.1	0.6	1.4	3.7	15.0	16.8
Meats	--	0	1.4	- 4.8	5.9	30.2	37.5
Beef & veal	--	-0.1	-0.3	- 9.7	-4.5	8.3	19.0
Pork	--	0.1	0.5	-10.3	-3.6	30.8	28.0
Lamb	--	0.1	0.9	- 4.0	15.1	37.8	37.7
Chickens	--	0.3	1.8	6.2	38.3	61.3	65.8
Fish, fresh & canned	--	-1.4	9.6	7.5	42.9	81.6	116.5
Dairy products	--	-0.1	-0.1	- 2.6	8.2	26.9	43.3
Eggs	--	3.1	12.4	2.1	25.7	49.0	60.0
Fruits & vegetables	--	5.5	10.7	0.9	49.7	106.4	108.4
Fresh	--	6.5	12.5	0.9	59.8	122.4	123.8
Canned	--	-0.1	0.7	- 0.8	6.0	42.3	42.0
Dried	--	0.2	2.9	6.8	28.7	69.5	86.9
Beverages	--	0	0.2	0.1	0	37.1	31.3
Fats & oils	--	0	0.6	-1.9	1.2	54.3	46.6
Sugar & sweets	--	-0.1	-0.1	- 0.9	-0.6	32.6	32.2

R - Revised.

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

TABLE 6 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
May 15, 1945 to June 12, 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Beverages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
AVERAGE	1.7	0.1	0.0	-0.1	3.1	5.5	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	1.3	0	0.1	0	-0.1	6.6	0	0	0
Baltimore, Md.	3.1	0	1.1	0.2	1.1	8.9	0	0.3	0.2
Birmingham, Ala.	1.6	0.3	0.2	-0.2	5.8	4.7	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Boston, Mass.	2.9	0.1	-1.4	0	4.7	12.8	0	0	0.1
Bridgeport, Conn.	1.9	-0.2	1.2	0	2.7	5.8	0	0	0
Buffalo, N. Y.	2.3	0.1	-0.7	-0.1	-1.6	10.3	0	0.1	0.2
Butte, Mont.	1.1	-0.1	0.9	0	1.3	2.8	-0.2	-0.1	0
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	1.3	0	-0.5	0	2.6	5.0	0.1	0.1	-0.1
Charleston, S. C.	1.3	0	1.1	0	5.3	2.7	0	0.2	0.1
Chicago, Ill.	0.5	-0.1	0.6	0	1.2	1.2	-0.4	0	0
Cincinnati, Ohio	2.3	0	-0.1	0.1	5.2	6.7	-0.2	0	0
Cleveland, Ohio	1.2	0	0.2	-0.1	2.0	3.5	-0.1	0	0
Columbus, Ohio	2.2	0	2.0	0	5.9	6.2	0	0	-0.1
Dallas, Texas	1.0	-0.1	0.2	0	2.3	3.9	0.1	0	0
Denver, Colo.	0.1	2.3	-0.4	0.1	5.1	-1.2	0	-0.1	0
Detroit, Mich.	3.1	0	0.2	0.1	5.9	10.2	-0.1	0	0
Fall River, Mass.	2.0	-0.2	-1.2	0	6.1	9.9	0	-0.2	0
Houston, Texas	0.8	0.3	1.2	-0.6	4.7	1.2	0	0.6	0
Indianapolis, Ind.	1.7	0.2	0.2	0	2.0	6.6	0	-0.1	0.2
Jackson, Miss.	1.1	-0.2	0.1	0	6.3	4.2	0.1	-0.7	0
Jacksonville, Fla.	0.8	-0.1	-0.5	0	2.9	2.5	0	0.4	0.2
Kansas City, Mo.	1.5	0.3	0.6	-0.1	3.4	4.9	-0.1	0.1	-0.8
Knoxville, Tenn.	0.8	0.2	-0.1	0	4.7	2.2	0	0.1	-0.5
Little Rock, Ark.	1.7	0.4	0.8	0	2.3	5.2	-0.8	0	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0	2.1	0.1	0.2	0	-0.2
Louisville, Ky.	2.2	0	0.3	0	4.0	9.4	0	0	-0.2
Manchester, N. H.	2.6	-0.2	-0.4	-0.1	2.3	13.3	0	-0.1	0
Memphis, Tenn.	2.0	-0.3	0.2	0.1	1.6	6.6	-0.3	0.6	0
Milwaukee, Wis.	2.1	-0.1	0.6	0.1	5.1	6.1	0	0.1	-0.1
Minneapolis, Minn.	1.4	0.1	0.7	-0.1	3.3	4.4	0	0.3	0.2
Mobile, Ala.	0.7	0	0	-0.1	2.3	2.9	0	0	-0.1
Newark, N. J.	3.9	0	-0.9	0	3.3	15.9	0.1	0.1	-0.2
New Haven, Conn.	2.6	0	0	0	1.4	10.5	0	0.1	0.1
New Orleans, La.	-0.4	0	-0.1	-0.2	2.3	-1.8	0	0.1	0.2
New York, N. Y.	1.8	-0.1	-0.1	0	3.5	6.1	0	0.1	-0.1

For footnotes, see page 13.

TABLE 6 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
 PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
 May 15, 1945 to June 12, 1945

Page 13
 June 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Prod- ucts	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- er- ages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
Norfolk, Va. <u>1/</u>	0.7	0.0	-0.4	-0.1	6.3	2.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.3
Omaha, Nebr.	-0.3	0	0.3	0	2.1	-2.0	0	0	-0.1
Peoria, Ill.	1.8	0	0	0	6.5	4.9	0	0.9	-1.5
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.8	0	-0.5	-0.9	0.7	3.9	0	-0.2	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	3.0	0	-0.1	-0.1	3.6	11.0	0.1	-0.5	-0.1
Portland, Maine	1.3	0.1	-0.9	0	0.1	7.2	0	0.1	0
Portland, Oreg.	0.3	0.7	-0.3	0	2.9	0.1	0	0.2	0.2
Providence, R. I.	3.5	0	-1.0	0	6.5	14.1	0	0.1	-0.6
Richmond, Va.	1.2	0	0.5	0	5.7	2.9	0.1	0.2	-0.2
Rochester, N. Y.	2.6	0	-0.4	0	4.6	11.4	-0.1	0.1	0.4
St. Louis, Mo.	1.6	0	-0.1	0	4.3	4.8	-0.1	0.1	0
St. Paul, Minn.	1.4	0	0.7	0	2.5	4.8	0	0.4	0.2
Salt Lake City, Utah	1.3	0.3	-0.3	-0.1	4.7	3.6	-0.1	-0.2	1.5
San Francisco, Calif.	1.2	0	0	0.1	1.5	3.6	0	0	0.1
Savannah, Ga.	0.9	-0.2	-0.2	0	2.9	3.9	0.1	-0.1	-0.3
Scranton, Pa.	3.4	0	0.2	0	5.7	10.9	0	0	0
Seattle, Wash.	-0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0	7.0	-3.5	0	0.3	0
Springfield, Ill.	1.4	0.8	-0.1	0	4.7	4.0	0	0.8	-1.2
Washington, D. C.	1.4	0	-0.1	0.2	1.1	4.6	0	0.1	0.1
Wichita, Kans.	-1.1	0.2	-0.1	0	1.2	-4.6	-0.1	0.1	-0.4
Winston-Salem, N. C.	1.1	-0.1	1.6	0	9.5	-0.1	0.5	0.1	-0.1

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JUNE 12, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent Change to June 12, 1945 from					
	June 12 1945	May 15 1945	May 15 1945	June 13 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 2/ *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	141.1	138.8	1.7	4.0	-1.3	16.0	44.3	50.9
Atlanta, Ga.	140.1	138.3	1.3	3.6	-2.0	16.4	48.6	51.5
Baltimore, Md.	151.4	146.9	3.1	7.2	-0.8	20.3	54.6	59.9
Birmingham, Ala.	143.7	141.4	1.6	2.8	2.1	19.3	49.7	58.4
Boston, Mass.	136.8	133.0	2.9	4.9	-0.9	15.6	43.7	46.3
Bridgeport, Conn.	138.5	135.9	1.9	5.4	-4.3	14.2	43.5	48.6
Buffalo, N. Y.	140.2	137.1	2.3	4.2	-5.1	12.0	39.9	48.4
Butte, Mont.	138.0	136.5	1.1	3.9	-0.2	13.6	39.8	46.7
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 3/	144.6	142.7	1.3	5.3	0.2	16.7	50.8	--
Charleston, S. C.	136.5	134.8	1.3	4.5	-2.7	10.8	42.3	43.5
Chicago, Ill.	140.2	139.5	0.5	3.5	-0.6	15.2	42.8	51.9
Cincinnati, Ohio	140.6	137.5	2.3	1.6	1.7	14.9	45.7	55.5
Cleveland, Ohio	146.4	144.6	1.2	3.6	0.1	18.0	47.6	56.4
Columbus, Ohio	133.6	130.7	2.2	5.1	-2.0	12.6	43.0	51.6
Dallas, Tex.	135.6	134.2	1.0	3.7	-1.9	16.1	46.4	47.9
Denver, Colo.	142.0	141.8	0.1	3.3	-1.3	15.5	49.8	53.2
Detroit, Mich.	139.2	135.0	3.1	4.7	-2.9	13.7	43.5	53.6
Fall River, Mass.	134.6	131.9	2.0	4.2	-4.2	11.4	38.1	41.1
Houston, Tex.	139.5	138.4	0.8	3.3	-2.9	10.8	36.0	42.6
Indianapolis, Ind.	137.4	135.1	1.7	3.6	-2.0	9.9	39.9	51.5
Jackson, Miss. 2/	149.0	147.4	1.1	7.0	-2.6	16.1	41.5	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	147.5	146.4	0.8	3.2	-2.6	15.8	49.3	54.0
Kansas City, Mo.	134.4	132.4	1.5	3.0	-2.5	13.1	45.5	46.9
Knoxville, Tenn. 3/	159.0	157.8	0.8	3.2	1.5	21.4	63.7	--
Little Rock, Ark.	140.3	138.0	1.7	4.9	-1.1	13.9	46.8	49.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	144.8	144.5	0.2	4.0	-1.0	13.0	42.2	53.1
Louisville, Ky.	134.1	131.2 ^R	2.2	0.9	-5.2	9.4	40.4	45.6
Manchester, N. H.	137.4	133.9	2.6	5.0	-3.4	10.8	42.2	44.8
Memphis, Tenn.	149.8	146.9	2.0	3.5	-0.2	21.3	59.0	67.0
Milwaukee, Wis.	141.0	138.1	2.1	4.1	-0.6	17.7	47.0	54.8
Minneapolis, Minn.	133.0	131.2	1.4	3.1	-1.4	10.0	34.3	40.0
Mobile, Ala.	145.9	144.9	0.7	2.7	-2.7	15.1	49.0	52.8
Newark, N. J.	145.3	139.9	3.9	5.5	2.0	20.2	47.1	52.0
New Haven, Conn.	139.9	136.3	2.6	5.5	-4.0	16.0	46.2	49.3
New Orleans, La.	152.4	153.0	-0.4	3.7	-0.1	18.1	49.6	56.1
New York, N. Y.	142.1	139.6	1.8	3.9	-0.8	20.4	42.8	48.3

For footnotes, see page 15.

TABLE 7 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JUNE 12, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent Change to June 12, 1945 from					
	June 12 1945	May 15 1945	May 15 1945	June 12 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 2/ *	Month Before War in Europe
Norfolk, Va. 4/	143.4	142.4	0.7	1.0	-6.5	13.7	49.7	53.2
Omaha, Nebr.	133.5	133.9	-0.3	1.8	-3.2	11.3	36.4	44.6
Peoria, Ill.	144.6	142.1	1.8	4.6	-2.8	12.1	46.1	54.8
Philadelphia, Pa.	138.8	137.7	0.8	3.2	-2.0	16.2	46.1	49.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	141.2	137.1	3.0	4.0	-0.8	16.3	44.1	52.6
Portland, Maine	135.2	133.4	1.3	3.1	-3.6	11.1	41.9	41.0
Portland, Oreg.	150.3	149.9	0.3	4.1	-2.1	11.7	47.8	56.4
Providence, R. I.	140.7	136.0	3.5	5.5	-0.2	15.2	46.1	50.2
Richmond, Va.	136.1	134.5	1.2	1.6	-3.8	12.6	45.3	47.6
Rochester, N. Y.	138.9	135.4	2.6	5.8	-0.5	13.6	39.0	50.5
St. Louis, Mo.	144.0	141.7	1.6	3.8	-0.5	16.3	45.2	53.5
St. Paul, Minn.	131.9	130.1	1.4	3.0	-2.2	11.1	33.8	39.9
Salt Lake City, Utah	144.3	142.5	1.3	3.4	-0.3	16.2	48.0	52.5
San Francisco, Calif.	147.5	145.7	1.2	3.5	-0.3	17.5	48.1	57.2
Savannah, Ga.	153.1	151.7	0.9	1.9	-0.5	17.5	52.3	58.3
Scranton, Pa.	144.5	139.8	3.4	6.3	-2.6	19.4	48.2	56.9
Seattle, Wash.	144.0	144.4	-0.3	2.6	-4.2	10.9	42.6	52.4
Springfield, Ill.	146.3	144.3	1.4	3.8	-1.5	14.3	52.1	55.5
Washington, D. C.	141.6	139.7	1.4	4.7	-0.6	17.3	44.9	50.5
Wichita, Kans. 3/	150.0	151.7	-1.1	2.6	-0.5	16.3	54.3	--
Winston-Salem, N. C. 3/	141.4	139.9	1.1	4.7	1.0	18.5	50.9	--

R - Revised

* See General explanations of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

3/ June 1940 equals 100.

4/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JUNE 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity		Average Prices June 12 1945	Percent Change to June 12, 1945 from					
			May 15 1945	June 13 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
			Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 1/*	Month Before War in Europe
(Cents)								
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:								
Cereals:								
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.3	0.2	-0.9	5.8	24.6	55.3	79.6
Macaroni	lb.	15.7	-0.6	0	2.6	10.6	13.8	12.1
Wheat cereal 2/	28 oz.	23.3	0	0.4	- 1.7	- 3.3	- 0.9	- 3.7
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.7	1.5	3.1	- 1.5	- 6.9	- 5.6	- 4.3
Corn meal	lb.	6.4	0	3.2	14.3	36.2	52.4	60.0
Rice 2/	"	12.9	0.8	0	1.6	4.9	63.3	72.0
Rolled oats	"	10.4	1.0	10.6	19.5	20.9	46.5	46.5
Flour, pancake 2/	20 oz.	12.3	0	1.7	16.0	3/	3/	3/
Bakery products:								
Bread, white	1b.	8.8	0	0	- 1.1	1.1	12.8	12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.7	1.0	0	- 1.0	2.1	11.5	10.2
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	0	0	2.1	10.0	7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	28.6	-0.3	-0.3	- 1.7	3.2	13.9	3/
Soda crackers	"	18.9	0	0	6.2	15.2	26.0	27.7
MEATS:								
Beef:								
Round steak	1b.	40.0	-0.5	-3.8	-14.5	- 9.5	3.6	9.9
Rib roast	"	32.1	-1.5	-4.7	-14.9	- 5.6	1.9	11.1
Chuck roast	"	27.6	-0.7	-4.5	-13.2	- 4.5	9.5	22.7
Stew meat 2/	"	29.0	-1.0	-7.9	-17.1	3/	3/	3/
Liver	"	36.5	-0.3	-2.1	- 2.7	3/	3/	3/
Hamburger	"	27.2	-0.4	-2.9	-15.5	3/	3/	3/
Veal:								
Cutlets	"	43.1	-0.7	-4.4	-16.0	-19.6	- 4.6	1.4
Roast, boned and rolled	"	34.3	-0.6	-2.0	- 9.0	3/	3/	3/
Pork:								
Chops	"	36.8	-0.3	-1.3	-12.2	-14.8	26.5	19.1
Bacon, sliced	"	41.0	0.2	-0.5	-10.3	4.3	36.2	34.9
Ham, sliced	"	49.0	-0.4	-4.1	-17.4	-16.7	8.6	5.6
Ham, whole	"	34.4	-0.3	-3.4	-13.6	- 9.0	31.3	25.5
Salt pork	"	22.1	-0.5	-1.3	-10.5	- 7.9	32.3	43.5
Liver 2/	"	22.1	0.5	0.5	- 6.4	3/	3/	3/
Sausage 2/	"	38.4	1.1	0.5	0.3	3/	3/	3/
Bologna, big 2/	"	33.8	-0.3	-1.2	0	3/	3/	3/
Lamb:								
Leg	"	39.6	-0.3	-1.2	- 5.3	17.2	42.4	43.5
Rib chops	"	45.0	-0.2	-0.7	- 7.4	9.0	28.6	22.6

For footnotes, see page 18.

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JUNE 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices June 12 1945	Percent Change to June 12, 1945 from					
		May 15 1945	June 13 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 1/*	Month Before War in Europe
(Cents)							
MEATS: (Continued)							
Poultry:							
Roasting chickens <u>4</u> / lb.	47.3	0.3	1.8	6.2	38.3	61.3	65.8
Fish:							
Fish (fresh, frozen) <u>4</u> / lb.	5/	- 1.6	11.1	8.4	51.9	87.6	121.4
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.6	0.4	- 0.4	- 1.7	8.3	50.3	84.4
Salmon, red <u>2</u> / "	40.3	0.2	- 4.7	- 2.7	0.8	52.7	74.5
DAIRY PRODUCTS:							
Butter lb.	50.0	0.2	0.2	-10.1	9.4	31.6	62.9
Cheese "	35.2	- 0.8	- 2.2	- 8.3	3.5	30.4	42.5
Milk, fresh (delivered), qt.	15.6	0	0	0	4.7	20.0	30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	0	0.7	7.4	21.8	31.8
Milk, evaporated <u>1 1/2</u> oz. can	10.1	0	1.0	0	16.1	42.3	50.7
EGGS:							
Eggs, fresh <u>4</u> / doz.	51.0	3.1	12.4	2.1	25.7	49.0	60.0
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:							
Fresh fruits and vegetables:							
Fresh fruits:							
Apples lb.	12.9	4.9	6.6	0	72.0	148.1	193.2
Bananas "	10.5	1.0	- 7.1	-10.3	-12.5	59.1	72.1
Oranges doz.	52.2	8.5	8.3	23.7	66.2	91.2	65.7
Grapefruit <u>2</u> / ca.	11.0	8.9	19.6	41.0	74.6	<u>3</u> /	<u>3</u> /
Fresh vegetables:							
Beans, green lb.	17.4	- 7.9	4.8	0	29.9	24.3	141.7
Cabbage "	9.0	55.2	66.7	-21.7	100.0	164.7	130.8
Carrots bunch	9.2	2.2	8.2	12.2	39.4	53.3	100.0
Lettuce head	12.6	5.0	9.6	-23.6	37.0	50.0	50.0
Onions lb.	8.8	23.9	35.4	- 2.3	29.4	144.4	144.4
Potatoes 15 lb.	88.7	0.6	12.7	- 4.1	67.4	203.8	157.8
Spinach lb.	11.3	- 8.9	16.5	- 2.6	52.7	54.8	44.9
Sweetpotatoes "	10.9	9.0	-14.2	-39.1	101.9	118.0	98.2
Beets <u>2</u> / bunch	12.6	15.6	17.8	8.6	<u>3</u> /	<u>3</u> /	<u>3</u> /
Canned fruits and vegetables:							
Canned fruits:							
Peaches # <u>2 1/2</u> can	27.5	0.4	0	3.8	18.0	66.7	60.8
Pineapple "	26.9	0.7	-2.2	- 6.3	- 0.7	28.7	28.1
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	0	0	2.9	46.9	<u>3</u> /	<u>3</u> /

For footnotes, see page 18.

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JUNE 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices June 12 1945	Percent Change to June 12, 1945 from					
		May 15 1945	June 13 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMFR *	"Little Steel" 1/*	Month Before War in Europe
	(Cents)						
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Continued)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green #2 can	13.1	0.0	0.8	-12.7	- 6.4	31.0	31.0
Corn "	14.8	0	2.8	5.7	13.8	38.3	42.3
Peas "	13.3	0	1.5	-14.2	-15.8	0.8	-2.2
Tomatoes "	12.1	-0.8	1.7	- 5.5	0	44.0	40.7
Soup, vegetable 2/11oz. can	13.4	0	0	2.3	3/	3/	3/
Dried fruits and vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes lb.	17.7	-1.7	3.5	7.9	43.9	84.4	101.1
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans lb.	11.4	0	6.5	14.0	26.7	75.4	96.6
Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle 2/ oz.	3.8	0	2.7	2.7	3/	3/	3/
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee lb.	30.4	0	1.3	1.3	5.2	46.9	36.3
Tea 1/4 lb.	24.2	0	1.3	12.6	8.0	37.5	40.7
Cocoa 2/ 1/2 lb.	10.4	0	2.0	13.0	2.0	14.3	20.9
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard lb.	18.8	0	0.5	- 1.6	5.0	102.2	89.9
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons lb.	20.0	-1.0	-1.0	- 1.0	1.0	77.0	70.9
In other containers "	24.5	-0.4	-0.8	0.8	- 5.0	33.9	21.3
Salad dressing pint	25.3	-1.2	-1.2	0.4	- 0.4	25.9	3/
Oleomargarine lb.	24.0	-0.8	-0.4	2.1	7.1	53.8	45.5
Peanut butter "	28.5	0.4	0.4	-12.3	5.9	59.2	59.2
Oil, cooking or salad 2/ pint	30.6	-0.6	1.7	0.3	3/	3/	3/
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar lb.	6.7	0	-1.5	- 1.5	- 2.9	31.4	28.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.8	0	0	1.3	6.8	16.2	15.3
Molasses 2/ 18 oz.	15.8	0	0.6	1.3	9.0	17.9	16.2
Apple butter 2/ 16 oz.	13.9	0	5.3	7.8	3/	3/	3/

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

2/ Not included in the index.

3/ Not priced in earlier period.

4/ Percent change computed on the index.

5/ Composite price not computed.

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COST OF LIVING AND RETAIL COSTS OF FOOD - JULY 1945

The BLS index indicates average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services bought by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. The items covered represented 70 percent of the expenditures of families who had incomes ranging from \$1250 to \$2000 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods, and forced changes in housing and eating away from home.

It does not measure changes in total "living costs" -- that is, in the total amount families spend for living. Income taxes and bond subscriptions are not included.

For a description of the methods used in computing the index, ask for "Description of the Cost of Living Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics." For an appraisal of the factors enumerated above, see the report of the President's Committee on the Cost of Living, November 17, 1944.

Retail prices of living essentials for moderate-income city families increased 0.3 percent during the month ending July 15, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Higher prices for clothing, coal, and miscellaneous goods and services, together with seasonally higher prices for eggs, brought the index to the highest level reached during the war.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics index of the cost of living for July 1945 is 129.4 percent of the 1935-39 average, and 31 percent above the August 1939 level. Over the past year the cost of living has increased 2.6 percent and is now 3.4 percent higher than in May 1943, the date that the President's "Hold-the-line" order became effective.

The food bill for families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers rose 0.4 percent as the result of higher prices for eggs and some fresh fruits and vegetables. Prices of green beans rose 37 percent at retail, following the removal of OPA ceilings on July 1. Prices of oranges, spinach, and sweetpotatoes rose seasonally. Average prices in the fresh fruits and vegetables group were fractionally lower due to lower prices for potatoes, apples, cabbage, and lettuce. After rising 55 percent between May and June, when OPA retail controls were lifted, cabbage prices fell 27 percent from mid-June to mid-July.

Clothing costs advanced for the twenty-fifth consecutive month and were 0.2 percent higher on July 15 than on June 15. Prices for clothing have increased more than 45 percent since the outbreak of war in Europe, and now average 14 percent higher than in May 1943 when the President's "Hold-the-Line" order took effect.

Medium and inexpensive cotton apparel - particularly men's business shirts, men's and boys' woven shorts, work clothing, knit undershirts, and women's street dresses - continued to be extremely difficult to buy. The retail cost of work

(more)

clothing again edged upward in many cities as higher prices were reported for overalls and work shirts; decreases were reported, however, in a few cities. Both increases and decreases were due principally to merchants' purchasing of replacement stocks from suppliers other than their former sources. Stores which have not yet been able to obtain sufficient supplies of white broadcloth shirts made under the WPB-OPA low-cost cotton apparel program, reported higher prices for men's shirts in mid-July. Tailored rayon slips and rayon wash frocks were available at lower prices in a number of cities, but the average cost of inexpensive rayon knit underwear advanced in nearly one-third of the stores surveyed.

Average prices of housefurnishings available in mid-July were 0.3 percent below those of a month ago, due primarily to larger supplies of low-priced bedroom suites. The reintroduction of prewar quality cooking stoves resulted in price increases in six cities and decreases in three others.

Substantial increases in anthracite prices allowed by the OPA at all levels of sale on June 18 resulted in an advance of 1.1 percent in the average cost for fuel, electricity and ice.

Prices of miscellaneous goods and services were 0.2 percent higher in mid-July than in mid-June. Increased costs for laundry services in three cities and higher prices for auto repairs in another city were the result of adjustments in maximum charges. Charges for haircuts and beauty shop services were up in Chicago, Los Angeles, and Washington, and the cost of cigarettes rose 6 percent in Boston as the state tax was increased. Scattered price changes were reported in the prices of cleaning supplies.

Rents were not surveyed in July.

NOTE: General explanation of tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1 (the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board), by assuming an even rate of change from December 14, 1940 to the next pricing date.

GMPR - The General Maximum Price Regulation was issued on May 18, 1942. It established retail price ceilings at their highest levels in March 1942.

The President's "Hole-the-Line" order was issued April 3, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is, therefore, used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

(SEE PAGE 2-A)

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

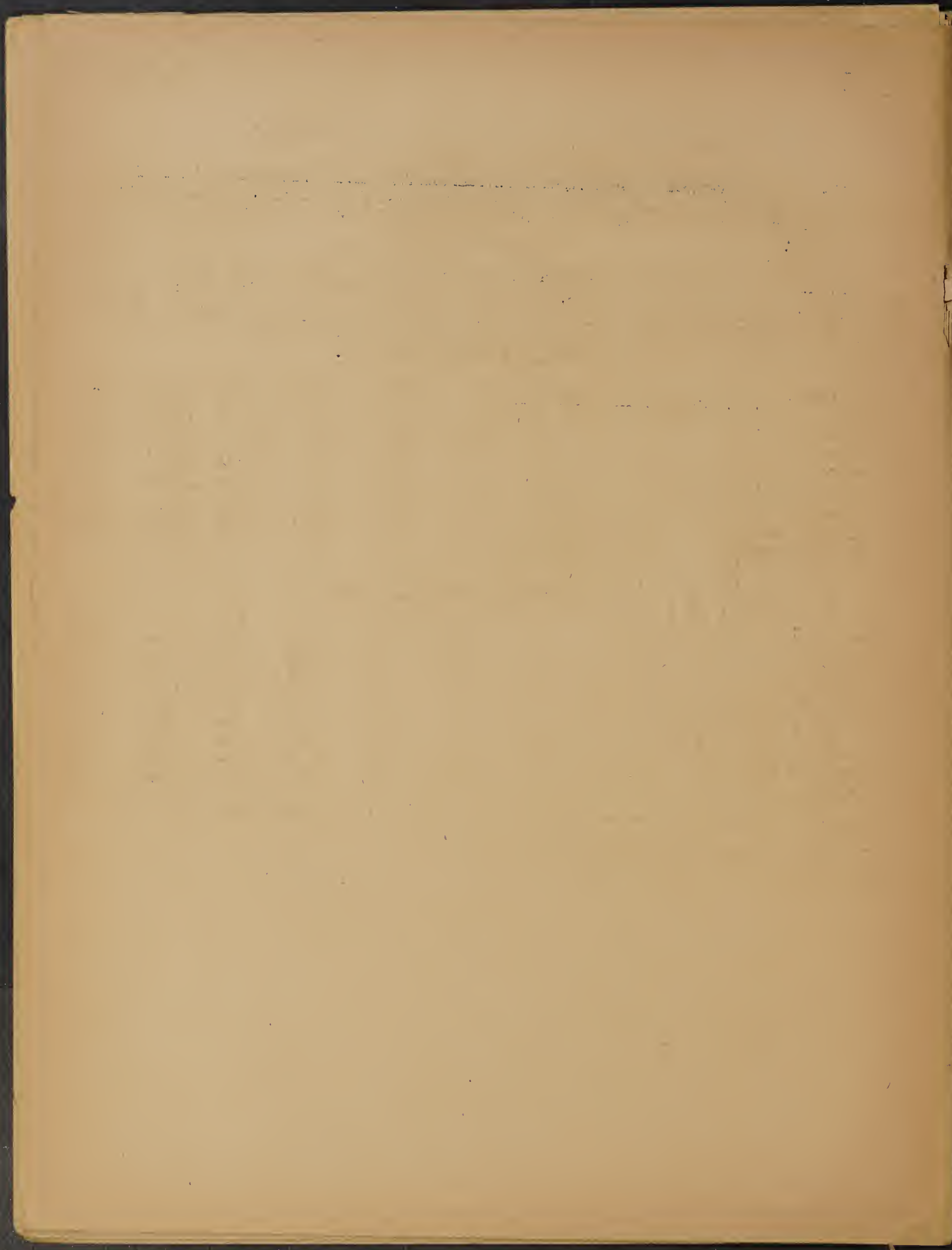


TABLE 1 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS.
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	July 1945	June 1945	July 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line"*	GMPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	129.4	129.0	126.1	125.1	116.0	100.8	98.6
Food	141.7	141.1	137.4	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing	145.7	145.4	138.3	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent	--	108.3	108.2	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	111.2	110.0	109.7	107.6	104.9	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	95.2	95.2	95.9	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	126.7	124.5	123.2	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	145.3	145.8	138.7	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	124.2	124.0	122.0	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to July 15, 1945

ALL ITEMS	--	0.3	2.6	3.4	11.6	28.4	31.2
Food	--	0.4	3.1	-0.9	16.5	45.2	51.6
Clothing	--	0.2	5.4	13.9	15.5	44.0	45.3
Rent 1/	--	--	0.1	0.3	-1.5	3.1	3.8
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	1.1	1.4	3.3	6.0	10.3	14.1
Gas & electricity	--	0	-0.7	-0.9	-1.4	-2.4	-3.8
Other fuels & ice	--	1.8	2.8	6.7	12.2	21.8	31.6
Housefurnishings	--	-0.3	4.8	16.1	18.9	45.0	44.4
Miscellaneous	--	0.2	1.8	7.7	12.0	22.0	23.7

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Percent change to June 1945.

TABLE 2 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO JULY 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

* City	June 1945	July 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line"*	GMPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	0.3	2.6	3.4	11.6	28.4	31.2
Baltimore, Md.	0	3.6	3.7	12.4	32.0	34.7
Birmingham, Ala.	1.0	2.6	6.1	12.5	31.4	35.5
Boston, Mass.	0.2	2.8	2.9	10.9	26.9	29.6
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.2	2.1	0.3	7.2	26.8	31.2
Chicago, Ill.	0.2	1.7	3.1	10.2	26.9	30.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.1	1.9	4.6	11.7	30.0	33.1
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.2	1.2	3.2	11.2	29.5	32.1
Denver, Colo.	-0.5	1.3	2.7	10.5	27.7	29.5
Detroit, Mich.	-0.1	2.2	2.7	10.0	29.4	32.7
Houston, Tex.	0.6	2.5	2.4	9.6	24.9	26.5
Kansas City, Mo.	0.2	2.6	4.0	11.7	29.5	29.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.1	3.2	3.8	10.6	27.4	30.0
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.2	1.5	2.5	7.8	22.7	25.3
New York, N. Y.	0.7	3.2	5.2	15.3	29.3	31.9
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.4	2.7	2.8	11.9	29.3	31.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.2	3.0	4.6	12.9	29.2	32.8
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.4	1.0	2.3	9.8	25.6	29.4
San Francisco, Calif.	0.7	3.3	4.3	13.6	31.2	34.5
Savannah, Ga.	1.0	2.2	4.4	13.9	35.8	38.7
Seattle, Wash.	0.5	2.4	2.4	9.4	29.9	32.2
Washington, D. C.	0.2	3.6	4.1	12.3	28.9	30.6

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 3 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, JULY, 1945

Page 5
July 1945

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
AVERAGE	129.4	141.7	145.7	111.2	145.3	124.2
Atlanta, Ga.	--	142.1	--	115.3	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	132.9	150.4	150.9	111.8	151.5	123.6
Birmingham, Ala.	133.5	146.9	141.8	107.5	139.4	127.1
Boston, Mass.	125.8	136.6	143.1	121.8	144.9	118.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	129.2	138.9	144.9	106.8	144.7	125.7
Chicago, Ill.	128.4	140.7	140.2	106.4	136.7	122.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	129.5	140.8	147.6	107.4	143.9	125.0
Cleveland, Ohio	132.1	145.8	145.5	113.6	146.7	122.8
Denver, Colo.	127.7	139.8	136.2	104.4	159.4	124.2
Detroit, Mich.	130.7	138.3	145.7	113.9	155.9	129.9
Houston, Tex.	127.4	141.6	140.1	91.1	144.1	124.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	136.8	--	113.4	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	152.4	--	114.0	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	127.4	135.0	146.1	112.9	135.5	126.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	130.6	145.2	141.8	92.5	141.7	127.7
Manchester, N. H.	--	137.4	--	128.8	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	150.7	--	106.6	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	140.6	--	110.9	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	124.9	133.7	141.4	103.3	138.9	123.0
Mobile, Ala.	--	151.1	--	103.7	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	157.6	--	103.0	--	--
New York, N. Y.	130.6	143.8	152.2	115.4	135.7	126.9
Norfolk, Va.	--	145.3	--	120.4	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	128.3	139.2	146.2	113.2	142.8	121.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	130.7	142.4	166.5	111.8	143.3	119.8
Portland, Maine	--	136.4	--	119.3	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	152.5	--	120.7	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	137.5	--	109.8	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	126.9	142.9	141.0	107.9	127.0	119.9
San Francisco, Calif.	133.6	150.1	143.0	92.9	132.2	133.1
Savannah, Ga.	137.7	156.6	144.5	113.1	156.3	129.7
Scranton, Pa.	--	142.6	--	117.6	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	132.6	145.7	145.4	104.9	145.3	132.3
Washington, D. C.	128.8	142.2	156.6	111.8	140.7	128.4

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 4 - COST OF LIVING IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM JUNE 1945 TO JULY 1945

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
AVERAGE	0.3	0.4	0.2	1.1	0.3	0.2
Atlanta, Ga.	--	1/1.1	--	0	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	0	-0.7	0.7	2.8	-0.5	0.1
Birmingham, Ala.	1.0	2.2	0	0	0	0.3
Boston, Mass.	0.2	-0.1	0.3	1.4	0	0.6
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.2	-0.9	0.1	1.9	2.3	0
Chicago, Ill.	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.5	-1.5	0
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.1	0.1	0	0	0.1	0
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.2	-0.4	0	0	0.5	0
Denver, Colo.	-0.5	-1.5	0.2	0	2.3	0.1
Detroit, Mich.	-0.1	-0.6	1.2	0.5	-0.1	0
Houston, Tex.	0.6	1.5	-0.4	0	0	0.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	-0.4	--	0	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	3.3	--	0	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.9	0	-0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.1	0.3	-0.1	0	-2.3	0.2
Manchester, N. H.	--	0	--	0.7	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	0.6	--	0.3	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	-0.3	--	0.8	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.3	0	0
Mobile, Ala.	--	3.6	--	0	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	3.4	--	2.8	--	--
New York, N. Y.	0.7	1.2	0.4	1.3	0.2	0.2
Norfolk, Va.	--	1.3	--	0.1	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.4	0.3	0.5	3.4	-1.0	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.2	0.8	-0.1	-0.1	-3.0	-0.2
Portland, Maine	--	0.9	--	0.9	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	1.5	--	0.3	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	1.0	--	0.2	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.4	-0.8	0	0.1	0	0
San Francisco, Calif.	0.7	1.8	-0.3	0.1	0.7	0
Savannah, Ga.	1.0	2.3	0	0.1	0	0
Scranton, Pa.	--	-1.3	--	5.9	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	0.5	1.2	-0.2	0	0	0.1
Washington, D. C.	0.2	0.4	0.2	2.0	-0.1	0

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.
1/ June index revised: 140.6.

TABLE 5 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Page 7
July 1945

Group	July 17 1945 This Month 1/	June 12 1945 Last Month	July 18 1944 Year Ago	May 18 1943 "Hold the Line"*	May 12 1942 GMPR *	Jan. 14 1941 "Little Steel" * 2/	Aug. 15 1939 Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL FOODS	141.7	141.1	137.4	143.0	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	109.1	109.1	108.6	107.6	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	131.6	131.6	129.3	138.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	118.5	118.5	118.7	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.7	112.6	112.1	125.5	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	136.0	136.0	135.0	141.6	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	156.2	156.8	151.4	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	217.3	215.6	197.5	200.5	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	133.4	133.4	133.6	136.9	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	157.2	145.1	148.9	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	191.8	192.6	176.9	190.8	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	206.7	207.7	188.4	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.2	130.1	129.0	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	168.9	168.8	164.6	158.0	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.7	124.7R	124.3	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	124.0	123.9	122.9	126.3	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	126.5	126.4	126.6	127.6	127.1	95.3	95.6

Percent Change to July 17, 1945

ALL FOODS	--	0.4	3.1	-0.9	16.5	44.9	51.6
Cereals & bakery products	--	0	0.5	1.4	3.7	15.0	16.8
Meats	--	0	1.8	-4.8	5.9	30.2	37.5
Beef & veal	--	0	-0.2	-9.7	-4.5	8.3	19.0
Pork	--	0.1	0.5	-10.2	-8.5	30.9	28.1
Lamb	--	0	0.7	-4.0	15.1	37.8	37.7
Chickens	--	-0.4	3.2	5.8	37.7	60.7	65.1
Fish, fresh & canned	--	0.8	10.0	8.4	44.0	83.1	118.2
Dairy products	--	0	-0.1	-2.6	8.2	26.9	43.3
Eggs	--	8.3	5.6	10.6	36.2	61.4	73.3
Fruits & vegetables	--	-0.4	8.4	0.5	49.0	105.6	107.6
Fresh	--	-0.5	9.7	0.4	59.0	121.3	122.7
Canned	--	0.1	0.9	-0.7	6.1	42.5	42.1
Dried	--	0.1	2.6	6.9	28.7	69.6	87.0
Beverages	--	0	0.3	0.2	0.1	37.2	31.4
Fats & oils	--	0.1	0.9	-1.8	1.3	54.4	46.7
Sugar & sweets	--	0.1	-0.1	-0.9	-0.5	32.7	32.3

R- Revised.

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

TABLE 6 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
JUNE 12, 1945 TO JULY 17, 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Prod- ucts	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- er- ages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
AVERAGE	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.3	-0.4	0.0	0.1	0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	1.1	0	0.7	0	11.5	1.0	0	0	0
Baltimore, Md.	-0.7	0.2	-0.8	0.1	5.2	-2.6	0	0.1	0.4
Birmingham, Ala.	2.2	0	0	0	9.4	5.2	0	0	0.1
Boston, Mass.	-0.1	0.2	-0.3	0	8.4	-2.5	0	0.2	-0.1
Bridgeport, Conn.	0.1	0	1.0	0	6.8	-2.0	0	-0.6	0
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.9	0.2	-0.5	0	4.8	-3.9	0.2	0.1	0
Butte, Mont.	0.5	0	-0.6	0	13.6	-0.5	-0.1	-0.2	0
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	0.6	0.2	1.3	0.2	5.9	-1.0	0.1	0	0.4
Charleston, S. C.	2.1	-0.2	1.7	0	9.3	5.4	0	0.5	0
Chicago, Ill.	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	6.9	-0.4	0	0.2	0.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.1	0	-0.2	-0.1	7.5	-0.6	-0.1	0.2	0
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.4	0	-0.1	0	8.9	-2.9	0	-0.2	0.2
Columbus, Ohio	-0.1	0	0.2	0	7.8	-3.8	-0.1	-0.5	0
Dallas, Texas	1.5	0	1.4	0	11.8	2.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.5
Denver, Colo.	-1.5	0	-0.1	0	7.8	-6.0	0	0.1	0.2
Detroit, Mich.	-0.6	-0.1	-1.6	-0.1	5.6	-1.9	0	0	0.1
Fall River, Mass.	0.1	0	-0.2	0	7.4	-1.5	0	0.4	0
Houston, Texas	1.5	0	-1.1	0	12.6	4.2	0	-0.1	0.7
Indianapolis, Ind.	-0.4	0	0.3	0	7.1	-4.0	0	0	0.2
Jackson, Miss.	0.3	0.2	-0.3	0	10.4	-1.6	0.2	0.5	-0.1
Jacksonville, Fla.	3.3	-0.5	1.5	0	10.4	8.9	0.2	0.3	-0.5
Kansas City, Mo.	0.4	-0.1	-0.9	0	7.9	0.5	0.1	-0.1	0.2
Knoxville, Tenn.	1.3	-0.2	-0.2	0	13.4	1.9	0.4	0.1	0.5
Little Rock, Ark.	0.5	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	7.9	0.3	0.1	0	-0.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.3	0.1	-0.2	0	11.4	-1.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Louisville, Ky.	0.1	0.1	0.3	0	8.6	-2.5	0	0	-0.1
Manchester, N. H.	0	-0.1	-0.3	0.2	9.4	-2.2	0.2	0.1	0
Memphis, Tenn.	0.6	0.6	0	-0.1	9.6	-0.7	0.1	0.1	0.4
Milwaukee, Wis.	-0.3	0.1	0.2	0	6.2	-2.5	0	0.1	0.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.5	0	0.4	-0.1	7.0	-0.2	-0.3	0.2	0
Mobile, Ala.	3.6	0.3	3.8	0.5	13.2	8.2	-0.1	0.1	0
Newark, N. J.	-0.1	0	0.6	0	10.1	-2.8	-0.1	0	0.2
New Haven, Conn.	-0.6	0.1	0.8	-0.2	3.9	-4.2	0	0.4	-0.1
New Orleans, La.	3.4	0	0.3	0.1	9.0	11.2	0	0	-0.1
New York, N. Y.	1.2	0.1	-0.1	0.1	8.4	2.6	0.2	0	-0.1

For Footnotes, see page 9.

TABLE 6 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*

Page 9

PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS

July 1945

JUNE 12, 1945 TO JULY 17, 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Prod- ucts	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- er- ages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
Norfolk, Va. <u>1</u> /	1.3	0.1	0.1	-0.1	3.2	3.8	-0.3	-0.2	-0.1
Omaha, Nebr.	0	0	0.4	0	4.2	-1.4	0	-0.5	0
Peoria, Ill.	0.1	0.1	0	0	8.9	-0.9	-0.3	0.8	0
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.3	0	-0.3	0.2	11.1	-1.4	0	0	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.8	0.2	0.4	-0.1	6.9	0.9	0	-0.3	0
Portland, Maine	0.9	0.1	1.0	0.1	10.1	-0.6	0.2	0.1	0
Portland, Oreg.	1.5	-0.1	1.7	0	9.9	1.3	0	0.1	-0.2
Providence, R. I.	0.9	0.2	-0.2	0.1	9.3	1.3	0	0.2	0
Richmond, Va.	1.0	0.2	0.7	-0.2	6.9	0.8	-0.2	0	0
Rochester, N. Y.	-0.5	0	-0.2	0	5.3	-3.8	0	0	0
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.8	0.1	0.1	0	7.4	-3.9	0	-0.8	0
St. Paul, Minn.	0.2	0	-0.1	0	8.2	-1.4	0	0.1	-0.6
Salt Lake City, Utah	0.3	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	8.9	-0.8	0	0	0.3
San Francisco, Calif.	1.8	0	0	0.1	10.3	3.1	0	0	0.1
Savannah, Ga.	2.3	0.1	3.7	0	8.1	3.3	0.1	0.6	0
Scranton, Pa.	-1.3	0	0.1	0	5.1	-5.8	0.1	0.2	0
Seattle, Wash.	1.2	0	0.2	0	7.8	2.3	0	-0.3	-0.2
Springfield, Ill.	-1.1	0.1	-0.1	0	11.0	-5.3	-0.4	0	0
Washington, D. C.	0.4	0.1	0.6	-0.1	11.3	-1.2	-0.1	0.1	0.2
Wichita, Kans.	0.6	0	-0.1	0	5.5	1.0	-1.7	0.1	1.4
Winston-Salem, N. C.	1.2	0	0.5	-0.1	6.4	-2.4	-0.1	0.3	-0.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JULY 17, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent Change to July 17, 1945 from					
	July 17 1945	June 12 1945	June 12 1945	July 18 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 2/*	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	141.7	141.1	0.4	3.1	-0.9	16.5	44.9	51.6
Atlanta, Ga.	142.1	140.6 ^R	1.1	2.9	-0.6	18.0	50.7	53.6
Baltimore, Md.	150.4	151.4	-0.7	5.1	-1.4	19.6	53.6	58.8
Birmingham, Ala.	146.9	143.7	2.2	3.9	4.4	21.9	53.0	62.0
Boston, Mass.	136.6	136.8	-0.1	3.6	-1.1	15.5	43.5	46.1
Bridgeport, Conn.	138.7	138.5	0.1	2.4	-4.1	14.3	43.7	48.8
Buffalo, N. Y.	138.9	140.2	-0.9	2.9	-6.0	10.9	38.6	47.0
Butte, Mont.	138.7	138.0	0.5	2.9	0.3	14.2	40.5	47.4
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 3/	145.4	144.6	0.6	3.5	0.8	17.4	51.6	--
Charleston, S. C.	139.4	136.5	2.1	4.8	-0.6	13.1	45.4	46.6
Chicago, Ill.	140.7	140.2	0.4	1.5	-0.3	15.6	43.3	52.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	140.8	140.6	0.1	1.1	1.8	15.0	45.9	55.8
Cleveland, Ohio	145.8	146.4	-0.4	0.8	-0.3	17.5	47.0	55.8
Columbus, Ohio	133.4	133.6	-0.1	3.3	-2.1	12.5	42.8	51.4
Dallas, Tex.	137.7	135.6	1.5	4.1	-0.4	17.9	48.7	50.2
Denver, Colo.	139.8	142.0	-1.5	-0.6	-2.8	13.8	47.5	50.8
Detroit, Mich.	138.3	139.2	-0.6	1.3	-3.6	13.0	42.6	52.6
Fall River, Mass.	134.8	134.6	0.1	1.4	-4.1	11.6	38.3	41.3
Houston, Tex.	141.6	139.5	1.5	3.4	-1.5	12.5	38.0	44.8
Indianapolis, Ind.	136.8	137.4	-0.4	1.6	-2.4	9.4	39.3	50.8
Jackson, Miss. 3/	149.4	149.0	0.3	7.9	-2.4	16.4	41.9	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	152.4	147.5	3.3	5.2	0.6	19.6	54.3	59.1
Kansas City, Mo.	135.0	134.4	0.4	1.9	-2.1	13.6	46.1	47.5
Knoxville, Tenn. 3/	161.1	159.0	1.3	2.4	2.9	23.0	65.9	--
Little Rock, Ark.	141.0	140.3	0.5	3.8	-0.6	14.4	47.5	50.0
Los Angeles, Calif.	145.2	144.8	0.3	4.8	-0.7	13.3	42.6	53.5
Louisville, Ky.	134.3	134.1	0.1	0.7	-5.1	9.5	40.6	45.8
Manchester, N. H.	137.4	137.4	0	1.6	-3.4	10.8	42.2	44.8
Memphis, Tenn.	150.7	149.8	0.6	3.1	0.4	22.0	60.0	68.0
Milwaukee, Wis.	140.6	141.0	-0.3	2.3	-0.9	17.4	46.6	54.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	133.7	133.0	0.5	1.8	-0.9	10.6	35.1	40.7
Mobile, Ala.	151.1	145.9	3.6	4.6	0.8	19.2	54.3	58.2
Newark, N. J.	145.1	145.3	-0.1	4.2	1.9	20.0	46.9	51.8
New Haven, Conn.	139.0	139.9	-0.6	2.7	-4.6	15.3	45.2	48.3
New Orleans, La.	157.6	152.4	3.4	5.3	3.3	22.2	54.7	61.5
New York, N. Y.	143.8	142.1	1.2	4.1	0.3	21.9	44.5	50.1

For footnotes, see page 11.

TABLE 7 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JULY 17, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39= 100.0)		Percent Change to July 17, 1945 from					
	July 17 1945	June 12 1945	June 12 1945	July 18 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 2/*	Month Before War in Europe
Norfolk, Va. <u>4/</u>	145.3	143.4	1.3	1.5	-5.2	15.2	51.7	55.2
Omaha, Nebr.	133.5	133.5	0	2.4	-3.2	11.3	36.4	44.6
Peoria, Ill.	144.8	144.6	0.1	3.1	-2.6	12.2	46.3	55.0
Philadelphia, Pa.	139.2	138.8	0.3	3.3	-1.7	16.6	46.5	49.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	142.4	141.2	0.8	4.2	0	17.3	45.3	53.9
Portland, Maine	136.4	135.2	0.9	1.0	-2.8	12.1	43.1	42.2
Portland, Oreg.	152.5	150.3	1.5	4.3	-0.7	13.4	50.0	58.7
Providence, R. I.	141.9	140.7	0.9	4.7	0.6	16.2	47.4	51.4
Richmond, Va.	137.5	136.1	1.0	2.3	-2.8	13.7	46.7	49.1
Rochester, N. Y.	138.2	138.9	-0.5	3.3	-1.0	13.0	38.3	49.7
St. Louis, Mo.	142.9	144.0	-0.8	0.7	-1.2	15.4	44.1	52.3
St. Paul, Minn.	132.2	131.9	0.2	2.0	-1.9	11.4	34.1	40.2
Salt Lake City, Utah	144.8	144.3	0.3	2.6	0.1	16.6	48.5	53.1
San Francisco, Calif.	150.1	147.5	1.8	5.4	1.4	19.6	50.7	60.0
Savannah, Ga.	156.6	153.1	2.3	2.4	1.8	20.2	55.8	61.9
Scranton, Pa.	142.6	144.5	-1.3	2.9	-3.8	17.9	46.3	54.8
Seattle, Wash.	145.7	144.0	1.2	2.7	-3.1	12.2	44.3	54.2
Springfield, Ill.	144.7	146.3	-1.1	0.3	-2.6	13.0	50.4	53.8
Washington, D. C.	142.2	141.6	0.4	5.4	-0.2	17.8	45.5	51.1
Wichita, Kans. <u>3/</u>	150.9	150.0	0.6	1.7	0.1	17.0	55.2	--
Winston-Salem, N.C. <u>3/</u>	143.1	141.4	1.2	5.2	2.2	19.9	52.7	--

R - Revised.

* See general explanations of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

3/ June 1940 equals 100.

4/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JULY 17, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices July 17 1945 (Cents)	Percent change to July 17, 1945 from					
		June 12 1945	July 18 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan.14 1941	Aug.15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 1/*	Month Before War in Europe
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat 10 lb.	64.3	0.0	-0.8	5.8	24.6	55.3	79.6
Macaroni lb.	15.7	0	0	2.6	10.6	13.8	12.1
Wheat cereal 2/ 28 oz.	23.3	0	1.3	- 1.7	- 3.3	-0.9	-3.7
Corn flakes 8 oz.	6.7	0	1.5	- 1.5	- 6.9	-5.6	-4.3
Corn meal lb.	6.4	0	1.6	14.3	36.2	52.4	60.0
Rice 2/ "	13.0	0.8	1.6	2.4	5.7	64.6	73.3
Rolled oats "	10.4	0	6.1	19.5	20.9	46.5	46.5
Flour, pancake 2/ 20 oz.	12.4	0.8	2.5	17.0	3/	3/	3/
Bakery products:							
Bread, white lb.	8.8	0	0	- 1.1	1.1	12.8	12.8
Bread, whole wheat "	9.7	0	0	- 1.0	2.1	11.5	10.2
Bread, rye "	9.9	0	0	0	2.1	10.0	7.6
Vanilla cookies. "	28.8	0.7	1.4	- 1.0	4.0	14.7	3/
Soda crackers "	18.9	0	0	6.2	15.2	26.0	27.7
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak lb.	40.1	0.2	-3.6	-14.3	9.3	3.9	10.2
Rib roast "	32.3	0.6	-3.3	-14.3	5.0	2.5	11.8
Chuck roast "	27.9	1.1	-3.1	-12.3	3.5	10.7	24.0
Stew meat 2/ "	29.4	1.4	-6.1	-16.0	3/	3/	3/
Liver "	36.6	0.3	-1.9	- 2.4	3/	3/	3/
Hamburger "	27.2	0	-2.5	-15.5	3/	3/	3/
Veal:							
Cutlets "	43.5	0.9	-3.5	-15.2	-18.8	-3.8	2.4
Roast, boned and rolled 2/ "	34.4	0.3	-1.7	- 8.8	3/	3/	3/
Pork:							
Chops "	36.9	0.3	-1.1	-11.9	-14.6	26.8	19.4
Bacon, sliced "	41.1	0.2	0	-10.1	4.6	36.5	35.2
Ham, sliced "	49.2	0.4	-3.3	-17.0	-16.3	9.1	6.0
Ham, whole "	34.6	0.6	-2.5	-13.1	- 8.5	32.1	26.3
Salt pork "	22.1	0	-0.5	-10.5	- 7.9	32.3	43.5
Liver 2/ "	22.1	0	0.5	- 6.4	3/	3/	3/
Sausage 2/ "	38.6	0.5	1.6	0.8	3/	3/	3/
Bologna, big 2/ "	33.7	-0.3	-1.2	- 0.3	3/	3/	3/
Lamb:							
Leg "	39.8	0.5	-0.7	- 4.8	17.8	43.2	44.2
Rib chops "	45.2	0.4	-0.4	- 7.0	9.4	29.1	23.2

For footnotes, see page 14.

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JULY 17, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices July 17 1945	Percent change to July 17, 1945 from					
		June 12 1945	July 18 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 1/*	Month Before War in Europe
	(Cents)						
MEATS: (Continued)							
Poultry:							
Roasting chickens 4/	lb. 47.1	- 0.4	3.2	5.8	37.7	60.7	65.1
Fish:							
Fish (fresh, frozen) 4/	lb. 5/	0.9	11.6	9.4	53.3	89.3	123.4
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.6	0	- 0.4	- 1.7	8.3	50.3	84.4
Salmon, red 2/	" 40.2	- 0.2	- 4.1	- 2.9	0.5	52.3	74.0
DAIRY PRODUCTS:							
Butter	lb. 49.9	- 0.2	- 0.2	-10.3	9.2	31.3	62.5
Cheese	" 35.4	0.6	- 1.9	- 7.8	4.1	31.1	43.3
Milk, fresh (delivered)	qt. 15.6	0	0	0	4.7	20.0	30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery)	" 14.5	0	0	0.7	7.4	21.8	31.8
Milk, evaporated 14 1/2 oz. can	10.1	0	1.0	0	16.1	42.3	50.7
EGGS:							
Eggs, fresh 4/	doz. 55.3	8.3	5.6	10.6	36.2	61.4	73.3
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:							
Fresh fruits and vegetables:							
Fresh fruits:							
Apples	lb. 12.5	- 3.1	- 8.1	- 3.1	66.7	140.4	184.1
Bananas	" 10.5	0	- 6.2	-10.3	-12.5	59.1	72.1
Oranges	doz. 52.7	1.0	3.7	24.9	67.8	93.0	67.3
Grapefruit 2/	ca. 11.3	2.7	11.9	44.9	79.4	3/	3/
Fresh vegetables:							
Beans, green	lb. 24.0	37.1	79.1	37.9	79.1	71.4	233.3
Cabbage	" 6.6	-26.7	37.5	-42.6	46.7	94.1	69.2
Carrots	bunch 9.2	0	7.0	12.2	39.4	53.3	100.0
Lettuce	head 12.3	- 2.4	20.6	-25.5	33.7	46.4	46.4
Onions	lb. 9.3	5.7	29.2	8.1	36.8	158.3	158.3
Potatoes	15 lb. 81.9	- 7.7	3.0	-11.5	54.5	180.5	138.1
Spinach	lb. 11.9	5.3	15.5	2.6	60.8	63.0	52.6
Sweetpotatoes	" 11.5	5.5	-14.8	-35.8	113.0	130.0	109.1
Beets 2/	bunch 9.0	-28.6	20.0	-22.4	3/	3/	3/
Canned fruits and vegetables:							
Canned fruits:							
Peaches #2 1/2 can	27.4	- 0.4	- 1.1	3.4	17.6	66.1	60.2
Pineapple "	26.9	0	- 1.5	- 6.3	- 0.7	28.7	28.1
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	0	0	2.9	46.9	3/	3/

For footnotes, see page 14.

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD COSTS IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JULY 17, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices July 17 1945	Percent change to July 17, 1945 from					
		June 12 1945	July 18 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 1/*	Month Before War in Europe
(Conts)							
FRUITS AND VECETABLES: (Cont'd)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green #2 can	13.1	0.0	0.0	-12.7	- 6.4	31.0	31.0
Corn "	14.8	0	2.8	5.7	13.8	38.3	42.3
Peas "	13.2	-0.8	0.8	-14.8	-16.5	0	- 2.9
Tomatoes "	12.2	0.8	2.5	- 4.7	0.8	45.2	41.9
Soup, vegetable 2/11 oz. can	13.4	0	0	2.3	3/	3/	3/
Dried fruits and vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes lb.	17.7	0	3.5	7.9	43.9	84.4	101.1
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans lb.	11.5	0.9	7.5	15.0	27.8	76.9	98.3
Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle 2/ oz.	3.8	0	2.7	2.7	3/	3/	3/
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee lb.	30.4	0	1.3	1.3	5.2	46.9	36.3
Tea 1/4 lb.	24.2	0	1.3	12.6	- 8.0	37.5	40.7
Cocoa 2/ 1/2 lb.	10.4	0	2.0	13.0	2.0	14.3	20.9
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard lb.	18.7	-0.5	0.5	- 2.1	4.5	101.1	88.9
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons lb.	20.0	0	-1.0	- 1.0	1.0	77.0	70.9
In other containers "	24.5	0	-0.8	0.8	- 5.0	33.9	21.3
Salad dressing pt.	24.3	-4.0	-5.1	- 3.6	- 4.3	20.9	3/
Oleomargarine lb.	23.8	-0.8	-1.7	1.3	6.2	52.6	44.2
Peanut butter "	28.5	0	0.4	-12.3	5.9	59.2	59.2
Oil, cooking or salad 2/ pt.	30.4	-0.7	-0.7	- 0.3	3/	3/	3/
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar lb.	6.7	0	-1.5	- 1.5	- 2.9	31.4	28.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.8	0	0	1.3	6.8	16.2	15.3
Molasses 2/ 18 oz.	15.8	0	0	1.3	9.0	17.9	16.2
Apple butter 2/ 16 oz.	14.1	1.4	6.8	9.3	3/	3/	3/

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

2/ Not included in the index.

3/ Not priced in earlier period.

4/ Percent change computed on the index.

5/ Composite price not computed.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX*AND RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD - AUGUST 1945

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Lower prices for fresh fruits and vegetables accounted for a decline of 0.2 percent between July and August in the cost of goods in the family budget, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor. Prices for other commodities and services during this last month of World War II increased slightly. The consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities for August 15, 1945 is 129.2 percent of the 1935-39 average and 2.2 percent above the level one year ago.

Over the six years between August 1939 and the announcement of the Japanese surrender in August 1945, prices of living essentials have risen 31 percent. The cost of food advanced 51 percent, clothing 46 percent, and housefurnishings 45 percent, while average prices for fuel, electricity and ice and the miscellaneous goods and services increased 14 and 24 percent, respectively. Rents, the only major group to remain relatively stable over the period, rose 3.8 percent.

Food costs in large cities declined 0.6 percent during the month ending August 15 after having increased more than 4 percent between mid-March and mid-July. Fresh fruits and vegetables prices fell 5 percent due to seasonal decreases for potatoes, onions, carrots, and sweetpotatoes, and sharp drops in prices for green beans, cabbage, spinach and oranges. Green beans were down by 22 percent after having risen 37 percent during the previous month when OPA controls were lifted. A large crop and the removal of some special adjustments of ceilings combined to result in a 15 percent decrease in the price of onions.

Eggs increased seasonally more than 5 cents per dozen during the month (ending August 14). Meat prices rose fractionally as supplies of beef and prepared meats continued to show marked improvement. Beef steaks and roasts were again available in 60 percent of the independent stores as compared with 27 percent in mid-June; seventy percent of the grocers had no veal and pork. Rationing restrictions on canned fruits and vegetables were removed on August 16.

Average costs of clothing advanced 0.3 percent between July 15 and August 15 as stocks of apparel in retail stores--especially men's clothing--were reported to be lower than at any time since the entry of the United States into the war. The price of women's winter cloth coats increased, reflecting the use of fur trim and wool fabrics of better quality than during the previous season. Work clothing continued to advance as retailers were forced to replenish their stocks with higher price lines. Costs of rayon print dresses showed little movement as the season ended, but percale house dresses were higher in half of the cities surveyed. Supplies of inexpensive cotton dresses continued to improve in most cities, due in part to increased stocks of merchandise price-marked by manufacturers in accordance with OPA regulations. Rayon knit undergarments declined in price over the month, and scattered increases were reported for rayon woven slips.

(more)

Average retail prices of housefurnishings and miscellaneous goods and services rose slightly (0.1 and 0.2 percent respectively) between mid-July and mid-August. Wool blankets were generally higher and there were price advances in a few cities for living room and bedroom furniture and cooking stoves, which offset scattered decreases in other cities. Some increases for laundry services and men's and women's haircuts were reported.

An increase of 3 to 20 cents per ton in the price of bituminous coal at the mine, allowed by OPA in over half of the nation's bituminous producing districts, and an increase of 40 cents per ton in the price of coke to compensate for higher coal and labor costs, combined to cause a 0.2 percent rise in the average prices of the fuel, electricity, and ice group. Prices of all solid fuels in Minneapolis were raised an additional 9 cents per ton as a result of wage increases granted to local employees.

Rents were not surveyed in August.

*NOTE: This index, formerly called the cost of living index, represents average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full effect of such factors as changes in quality and the availability of goods. During the war the quality of civilian goods has been lowered. The Bureau has attempted to account for the disappearance of low-priced merchandise by pricing the most similar article available. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the average price rise shown for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944.

General Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1 (the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board), by assuming an even rate of change from December 14, 1940 to the next pricing date.

GMPR - The General Maximum Price Regulation was issued on May 18, 1942. It established retail price ceilings at their highest levels in March 1942.

The President's "Hold-the-line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is therefore used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

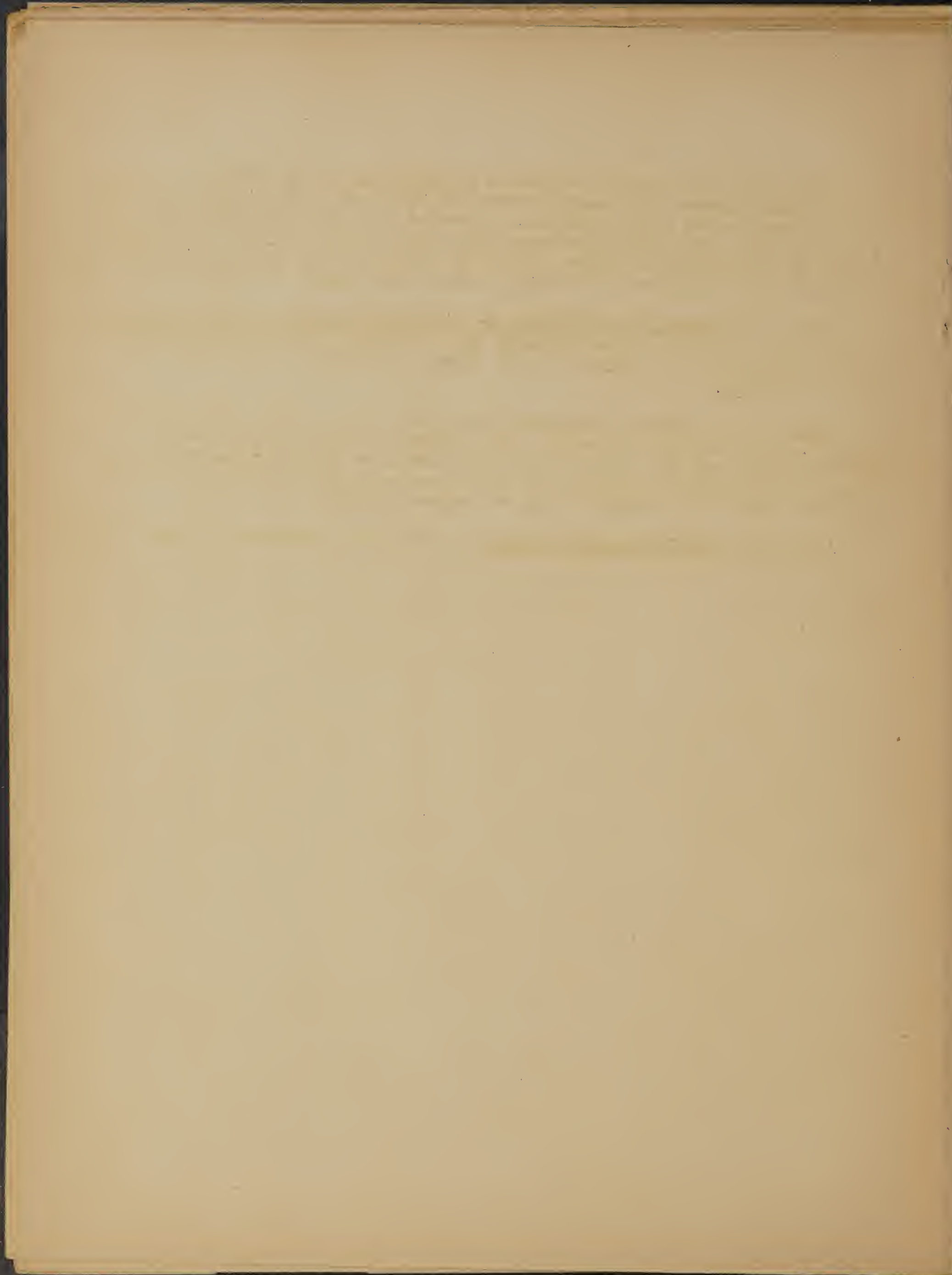


TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Aug. 1945	July 1945	Aug. 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line"*	GMFR *	"Little Steel" *	Month before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	129.2	129.4	126.4	125.1	116.0	100.8	98.6
Food	140.9	141.7	137.7	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing	146.2	145.7	139.4	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent	--	--	108.2	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	111.4	111.2	109.8	107.6	104.9	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	95.2	95.2	95.8	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	127.2	126.7	123.3	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	145.5	145.3	139.3	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	124.4	124.2	122.3	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to August 1945

ALL ITEMS	--	-0.2	2.2	3.3	11.4	28.2	31.0
Food	--	-0.6	2.3	-1.5	15.9	44.4	50.7
Clothing	--	0.3	4.9	14.3	15.8	44.5	45.8
Rent 1/	--	--	0.1	0.3	-1.5	3.1	3.8
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	0.2	1.5	3.5	6.2	10.5	14.3
Gas & electricity	--	0	-0.6	-0.9	-1.4	-2.4	-3.8
Other fuels & ice	--	0.4	3.2	7.2	12.7	22.3	32.1
Housefurnishings	--	0.1	4.5	16.3	19.1	45.2	44.6
Miscellaneous	--	0.2	1.7	7.9	12.2	22.2	23.9

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Percent change to June 1945.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO AUGUST 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

	July 1945	Aug. 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
City	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line"*	GNPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	-0.2	2.2	3.3	11.4	28.2	31.0
Baltimore, Md.	-0.4	3.0	3.3	12.0	31.5	34.1
Birmingham, Ala.	0.2	1.6	6.4	12.7	31.7	35.8
Boston, Mass.	-0.2	2.3	2.7	10.8	26.7	29.4
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.1	2.4	0.4	7.3	26.9	31.3
Chicago, Ill.	-0.4	1.8	2.7	9.8	26.4	29.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.2	2.2	4.4	11.6	29.8	32.9
Cleveland, Ohio	0	1.1	3.2	11.2	29.5	32.1
Denver, Colo.	-0.1	2.2	2.6	10.4	27.6	29.4
Detroit, Mich.	0.2	2.9	2.9	10.3	29.7	33.0
Houston, Tex.	-0.1	2.1	2.3	9.6	24.8	26.4
Kansas City, Mo.	0.1	2.9	4.1	11.7	29.6	29.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.2	2.6	4.1	10.8	27.7	30.2
Minneapolis, Minn.	-0.1	1.7	2.5	7.7	22.6	25.2
New York, N. Y.	-0.5	2.2	4.7	14.7	28.7	31.3
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.1	2.2	2.7	11.8	29.2	31.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.5	1.7	4.2	12.3	28.6	32.2
St. Louis, Mo.	0.5	1.8	2.8	10.3	26.2	30.0
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.8	2.4	3.4	12.7	30.2	33.4
Savannah, Ga.	0.4	1.9	4.8	14.3	36.3	39.2
Seattle, Wash.	0.2	2.4	2.5	9.6	30.1	32.4
Washington, D. C.	-0.1	3.0	4.0	12.2	28.8	30.5

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, AUGUST, 1945

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
AVERAGE	129.2	140.9	146.2	111.4	145.5	124.4
Atlanta, Ga.	--	142.1	--	115.3	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	132.4	149.1	150.9	111.8	151.6	123.6
Birmingham, Ala.	133.8	147.5	142.2	107.5	139.9	127.2
Boston, Mass.	125.6	135.7	143.3	122.2	145.0	118.9
Buffalo, N. Y.	129.3	138.4	145.6	107.4	144.0	126.2
Chicago, Ill.	127.9	139.2	140.0	106.6	136.3	122.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	129.3	140.0	148.8	107.8	143.8	125.1
Cleveland, Ohio	132.1	145.6	145.0	113.7	146.8	122.9
Denver, Colo.	127.6	139.3	136.6	105.1	160.4	124.2
Detroit, Mich.	131.0	138.4	146.4	114.7	156.2	130.8
Houston, Tex.	127.3	141.2	140.1	91.1	144.1	124.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	137.7	--	113.6	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	152.0	--	114.0	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	127.5	135.4	146.8	112.4	135.4	126.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	130.9	145.9	142.3	92.5	142.4	127.8
Manchester, N. H.	--	136.4	--	129.1	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	150.9	--	106.6	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	139.4	--	111.5	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	124.8	133.2	141.0	104.2	138.9	123.1
Mobile, Ala.	--	152.3	--	103.5	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	156.5	--	103.0	--	--
New York, N. Y.	130.0	141.7	154.0	115.5	136.4	126.9
Norfolk, Va.	--	146.1	--	120.5	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	128.2	138.9	146.6	113.3	143.0	121.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	130.1	141.3	164.2	112.1	144.1	120.0
Portland, Maine	--	135.7	--	119.7	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	150.9	--	120.6	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	138.3	--	109.9	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	127.5	144.0	141.5	108.0	127.0	119.9
San Francisco, Calif.	132.5	147.1	143.0	92.9	132.0	133.1
Savannah, Ga.	138.2	157.5	145.2	113.1	157.8	129.7
Scranton, Pa.	--	141.3	--	117.9	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	132.8	145.8	145.9	104.9	145.3	132.3
Washington, D. C.	128.7	141.7	156.9	112.1	140.8	128.4

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM JULY 1945 TO AUGUST 1945

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electric- ity & Ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
AVERAGE	-0.2	-0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2
Atlanta, Ga.	--	0	--	0	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	-0.4	-0.9	0	0	0.1	0
Birmingham, Ala.	0.2	0.4	0.3	0	0.4	0.1
Boston, Mass.	-0.2	-0.7	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.6
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.1	-0.4	0.5	0.6	-0.5	0.4
Chicago, Ill.	-0.4	-1.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.3	0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.2	-0.6	0.3	0.4	-0.1	0.1
Cleveland, Ohio	0	-0.1	-0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
Denver, Colo.	-0.1	-0.4	0.3	0.7	0.6	0
Detroit, Mich.	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.7
Houston, Tex.	-0.1	-0.3	0	0	0	0
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	0.7	--	0.2	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	-0.3	--	0	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0.1	0.3	0.5	-0.4	-0.1	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.2	0.5	0.4	0	0.5	0.1
Manchester, N. H.	--	1/-2.2	--	0.2	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	0.1	--	0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	-0.9	--	0.5	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	-0.1	-0.4	-0.3	0.9	0	0.1
Mobile, Ala.	--	0.8	--	-0.2	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	-0.7	--	0	--	--
New York, N. Y.	-0.5	-1.5	1.2	0.1	0.5	0
Norfolk, Va.	--	0.6	--	0.1	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.5	-0.8	-1.4	0.3	0.6	0.2
Portland, Maine	--	-0.5	--	0.3	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	-1.0	--	-0.1	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	0.6	--	0.1	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.1	0	0
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.8	-2.0	0	0	-0.2	0
Savannah, Ga.	0.4	0.6	0.5	0	1.0	0
Scranton, Pa.	--	-0.9	--	0.3	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	0.2	0.1	0.3	0	0	0
Washington, D. C.	-0.1	-0.4	0.2	0.3	0.1	0

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.
1/ Index for July 15, 1945 revised: Food 139.4.

TABLE 5 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

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August 1945

Group	Aug. 14 1945 This Month 1/	July 17 1945 Last Month	Aug. 15 1944 Year Ago	May 18 1943 "Hold the Line"*	May 12 1942 GMPR *	Jan. 14 1941 "Little Steel" * 2/	Aug. 15 1939 Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL FOODS	140.9	141.7	137.7	143.0	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	109.1	109.1	108.5	107.6	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	131.8	131.6	129.0	138.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	118.5	118.5	118.6	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.6	112.7	112.0	125.5	123.2	96.1	88.0
Lamb	136.4	136.0	134.7	141.6	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	157.3	156.2	149.8	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	217.8	217.3	198.0	200.5	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	133.4	133.4	133.6	133.9	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	171.4	157.2	159.4	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	183.5	191.8	175.7	190.8	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	196.2	206.7	186.7	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.3	130.2	129.3	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	168.6	168.9	165.0	158.0	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.7	124.7	124.3	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	124.0	124.0	122.7	126.3	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	126.6	126.5	126.5	127.6	127.1	95.3	95.6

Percent Change to Aug. 14, 1945

ALL FOODS	--	-0.6	2.3	- 1.5	15.9	44.1	50.7
Cereals & bakery products	--	0	0.6	1.4	3.7	15.0	16.3
Meats	--	0.2	2.2	- 4.7	6.0	30.4	37.7
Beef & veal	--	0	-0.1	- 9.7	-4.5	8.3	19.0
Pork	--	-0.1	0.5	-10.3	-8.6	30.8	28.0
Lamb	--	0.3	1.3	- 3.7	15.4	38.2	38.1
Chickens	--	0.7	5.0	6.6	38.7	61.8	66.3
Fish, fresh & canned	--	0.2	10.0	8.6	44.3	83.5	118.7
Dairy products	--	0	-0.1	- 2.6	8.2	26.9	43.3
Eggs	--	9.0	7.5	20.6	48.5	76.0	89.0
Fruits & vegetables	--	-4.3	4.4	- 3.8	42.6	96.7	98.6
Fresh	--	-5.1	5.1	- 4.7	50.9	110.1	111.4
Canned	--	0.1	0.8	- 0.6	6.2	42.6	42.2
Dried	--	-0.2	2.2	6.7	26.5	69.3	86.7
Beverages	--	0	0.3	0.2	0.1	37.2	31.4
Fats & oils	--	0	1.1	- 1.8	1.3	54.4	46.7
Sugar & sweets	--	0.1	0.1	- 0.8	-0.4	32.8	32.4

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

TABLE 6. - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
JULY 17, 1945 TO AUGUST 14, 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Prod- ucts	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- er ages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
AVERAGE	-0.6	0.0	0.2	0.0	9.0	- 4.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	0	0.2	0.1	0	10.2	- 3.5	0	0	0
Baltimore, Md.	-0.9	0.1	-1.0	0.2	11.2	- 4.1	0	-0.2	-0.4
Birmingham, Ala.	0.4	-0.4	-0.7	0	7.1	- 0.8	0	0.4	0.1
Boston, Mass.	-0.7	0	1.3	0	10.1	- 6.5	0.1	0.1	0.2
Bridgeport, Conn.	-0.9	0.1	-0.4	-0.1	6.3	- 5.3	0	0.1	0
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.4	0	0.2	0.1	9.2	- 3.7	0	-0.1	0
Butte, Mont.	0	0	0.6	-0.1	9.2	- 2.8	0.1	-0.1	0
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	-0.1	0	-0.1	0.1	9.8	- 2.7	0.1	0.1	0
Charleston, S. C.	0.2	0.1	-0.9	0.1	8.7	- 0.1	0	0	0
Chicago, Ill.	-1.1	0	0.1	0.1	8.6	- 5.7	-0.1	0	0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.6	0.1	-0.1	0	8.3	- 3.4	0.3	-0.1	0
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.1	0.1	0.6	0	8.5	- 2.5	0.2	-0.1	0
Columbus, Ohio	0.4	0	-0.1	0.1	9.9	- 1.8	0.3	-0.1	0.2
Dallas, Texas	0.9	-0.1	1.3	0	10.4	- 0.3	0	0.3	-0.1
Denver, Colo.	-0.4	0	0.4	0	9.1	- 3.2	0	-0.2	0.1
Detroit, Mich.	0.1	0.1	1.5	0	10.9	- 3.5	0	0.5	-0.1
Fall River, Mass.	-0.5	0.2	0.3	-0.3	10.1	- 6.1	0	0.3	0
Houston, Texas	-0.3	0	-0.1	0	8.2	- 3.0	0	0.1	0.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	0.7	0	0.2	0	11.0	- 0.6	0	0	-0.2
Jackson, Miss.	1.2	-1.5	-0.1	-0.1	14.7	3.5	-1.2	0.4	0
Jacksonville, Fla.	-0.3	0	-0.6	0	10.2	- 3.3	0	0	0
Kansas City, Mo.	0.3	0.3	0	0	10.0	- 1.9	0	0.4	0
Knoxville, Tenn.	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	0	7.0	- 3.0	-0.4	0.1	-0.4
Little Rock, Ark.	-0.4	0	1.1	0.1	10.0	- 5.3	-0.1	0.1	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.5	0	-0.1	0.1	8.3	- 0.6	-0.1	0	-0.1
Louisville, Ky.	0.5	0	0	0	11.2	- 1.3	0	0	-0.2
Manchester, N. H.	-2.2	0.3	0.4	0	11.4	-13.1	0	0.6	-0.1
Memphis, Tenn.	0.1	-0.1	0.7	-0.1	9.3	- 2.4	-0.2	0.1	0.1
Milwaukee, Wis.	-0.9	-0.1	-0.3	0	8.8	- 4.6	0.4	0	-0.2
Minneapolis, Minn.	-0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	8.2	- 5.0	0.1	0	0
Mobile, Ala.	0.8	0	0.4	0.1	9.2	0.8	0	0.1	-0.1
Newark, N. J.	-1.2	-0.1	0	0	8.6	- 6.4	-0.4	0	0
New Haven, Conn.	-1.3	0	-0.8	-0.1	5.6	- 5.2	-0.4	0	-0.1
New Orleans, La.	-0.7	0	0.2	-0.1	8.9	- 4.4	0	0	0.1
New York, N. Y.	-1.5	0	0	0.1	8.9	- 7.2	-0.1	0.2	0.1

For footnotes, see page 9.

TABLE 6 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
 PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
 JULY 17, 1945 TO AUGUST 14, 1945

Page 9
 August 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Prod- ucts	Eggs	Fruits and -Veg.	Bev- er- ages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
Norfolk, Va. 1/	0.6	0.0	1.3	0.0	4.6	-0.4	-0.1	-1.0	-0.1
Omaha, Nebr.	-1.3	0	-0.2	0	5.3	-6.1	0	0.1	0
Peoria, Ill.	0.8	0	-0.1	0	10.2	1.2	0.1	-1.0	0
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.2	0	0.7	0	8.5	-3.9	0.2	-0.1	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.8	0	0.1	0.1	9.9	-5.3	-0.2	0.2	0
Portland, Maine	-0.5	0.1	-0.4	-0.1	12.1	-5.7	0	0.3	0
Portland, Oreg.	-1.0	0.1	-0.2	0.1	8.5	-6.0	0	0.1	0.1
Providence, R. I.	-0.2	-0.2	0.9	-0.2	9.4	-3.7	0	0.2	0
Richmond, Va.	0.6	0	-0.4	0	9.3	-0.7	-0.3	0	0
Rochester, N. Y.	-0.3	0	0.4	0	8.1	-4.7	0.1	0	0
St. Louis, Mo.	0.8	0	-0.1	-0.2	7.9	1.0	0	0	0
St. Paul, Minn.	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	0	8.1	-2.8	0	0.1	-0.2
Salt Lake City, Utah	-0.6	0	-0.1	0	8.3	-4.5	0	0.2	0
San Francisco, Calif.	-2.0	0	0.2	0	9.1	-8.7	0	0	-0.2
Savannah, Ga.	0.6	0.2	-2.0	0	10.2	2.5	0	1.2	-0.2
Scranton, Pa.	-0.9	0.1	0.1	0.1	10.3	-6.2	0	-0.1	2.6
Seattle, Wash.	0.1	0	0.1	-0.3	10.0	-3.0	-0.5	0.2	0.1
Springfield, Ill.	1.0	0	0.1	0	15.6	1.1	0.1	-0.6	0.1
Washington, D. C.	-0.4	0.2	-0.9	0.3	8.8	-2.1	0	0	0.1
Wichita, Kans.	-0.7	0.2	-0.7	-0.1	16.4	-7.4	0.6	0	0.5
Winston-Salem, N. C.	-0.2	0	-0.1	0	9.5	-1.8	0	0	0.8

*. See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/. Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO AUGUST 14, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent change to August 14, 1945 from					
	Aug. 14 1945	July 17 1945	July 17 1945	Aug. 15 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 2/ *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	140.9	141.7	-0.6	2.3	-1.5	15.9	44.1	50.7
Atlanta, Ga.	142.1	142.1	0	2.1	-0.6	18.0	50.7	53.6
Baltimore, Md.	149.1	150.4	-0.9	3.9	-2.3	18.5	52.3	57.4
Birmingham, Ala.	147.5	146.9	0.4	1.4	4.8	22.4	53.6	62.6
Boston, Mass.	135.7	136.6	-0.7	2.6	-1.7	14.7	42.5	45.1
Bridgeport, Conn.	137.4	138.7	-0.9	1.7	-5.0	13.3	42.4	47.4
Buffalo, N. Y.	138.4	138.9	-0.4	3.3	-6.4	10.5	38.1	46.5
Butte, Mont.	138.7	138.7	0	2.7	0.3	14.2	40.5	47.4
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 3/	145.3	145.4	-0.1	4.5	0.7	17.3	51.5	--
Charleston, S. C.	139.7	139.4	0.2	3.2	-0.4	13.4	45.7	46.9
Chicago, Ill.	139.2	140.7	-1.1	1.5	-1.3	14.4	41.8	50.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	140.0	140.8	-0.6	2.3	1.2	14.4	45.1	54.9
Cleveland, Ohio	145.6	145.8	-0.1	0.9	-0.5	17.3	46.8	55.6
Columbus, Ohio	134.0	133.4	0.4	2.9	-1.7	13.0	43.5	52.1
Dallas, Tex.	138.9	137.7	0.9	4.0	0.5	18.9	50.0	51.5
Denver, Colo.	139.3	139.8	-0.4	1.6	-3.1	13.3	46.9	50.3
Detroit, Mich.	138.4	138.3	0.1	3.0	-3.5	13.1	42.7	52.8
Fall River, Mass.	134.1	134.8	-0.5	1.4	-4.6	11.0	37.5	40.6
Houston, Tex.	141.2	141.6	-0.3	2.5	-1.7	12.2	37.6	44.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	137.7	136.8	0.7	2.5	-1.8	10.2	40.2	51.8
Jackson, Miss. 3/	151.2	149.4	1.2	5.8	-1.2	17.8	43.6	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	152.0	152.4	-0.3	2.1	0.3	19.3	53.8	58.7
Kansas City, Mo.	135.4	135.0	0.3	3.2	-1.8	14.0	46.5	48.0
Knoxville, Tenn. 3/	160.6	161.1	-0.3	1.3	2.6	22.6	65.4	--
Little Rock, Ark.	140.4	141.0	-0.4	2.0	-1.0	14.0	46.9	49.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	145.9	145.2	0.5	3.4	-0.2	13.9	43.3	54.2
Louisville, Ky.	135.0	134.3	0.5	1.2	-4.6	10.1	41.4	46.6
Manchester, N. H.	136.4	139.4 ^R	-2.2	1.0	-4.1	10.0	41.2	43.7
Memphis, Tenn.	150.9	150.7	0.1	1.8	0.5	22.2	60.2	68.2
Milwaukee, Wis.	139.4	140.6	-0.9	2.2	-1.8	16.4	45.4	53.0
Minneapolis, Minn.	133.2	133.7	-0.4	2.1	-1.3	10.2	34.5	40.2
Mobile, Ala.	152.3	151.1	0.8	3.5	1.6	20.1	55.6	59.5
Newark, N. J.	143.4	145.1	-1.2	3.6	0.7	18.6	45.1	50.0
New Haven, Conn.	137.2	139.0	-1.3	0.9	-5.8	13.8	43.4	46.4
New Orleans, La.	156.5	157.6	-0.7	2.5	2.6	21.3	53.6	60.3
New York, N. Y.	141.7	143.8	-1.5	2.0	-1.1	20.1	42.4	47.9

For footnotes, see page 11.

TABLE 7 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO AUGUST 14, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent change to August 14, 1945 from					
	Aug. 14 1945	July 17 1945	July 17 1945	Aug. 15 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 2/ *	Month Before War in Europe
Norfolk, Va. 4/	146.1	145.3	0.6	0.9	-4.7	15.9	52.5	56.1
Omaha, Nebr.	131.8	133.5	-1.3	1.6	-4.4	9.9	34.6	42.8
Peoria, Ill.	145.9	144.8	0.8	3.4	-1.9	13.1	47.4	56.2
Philadelphia, Pa.	138.9	139.2	-0.2	2.1	-1.9	16.3	46.2	49.4
Pittsburgh, Pa.	141.3	142.4	-0.8	1.9	-0.8	16.4	44.2	52.8
Portland, Maine	135.7	136.4	-0.5	-0.6	-3.3	11.5	42.4	41.5
Portland, Oreg.	150.9	152.5	-1.0	3.9	-1.8	12.2	48.4	57.0
Providence, R. I.	141.6	141.9	-0.2	3.5	0.4	16.0	47.0	51.1
Richmond, Va.	138.3	137.5	0.6	1.3	-2.3	14.4	47.6	50.0
Rochester, N. Y.	137.8	138.2	-0.3	3.6	-1.3	12.7	37.9	49.3
St. Louis, Mo.	144.0	142.9	0.8	2.8	-0.5	16.3	45.2	53.5
St. Paul, Minn.	132.1	132.2	-0.1	2.8	-2.0	11.3	34.0	40.1
Salt Lake City, Utah	143.9	144.8	-0.6	2.9	-0.6	15.9	47.6	52.1
San Francisco, Calif.	147.1	150.1	-2.0	3.3	-0.6	17.2	47.7	56.8
Savannah, Ga.	157.5	156.6	0.6	1.8	2.4	20.9	56.7	62.9
Scranton, Pa.	141.3	142.6	-0.9	1.8	-4.7	16.8	44.9	53.4
Seattle, Wash.	145.8	145.7	0.1	3.0	-3.0	12.2	44.4	54.3
Springfield, Ill.	146.1	144.7	1.0	2.5	-1.6	14.1	51.9	55.3
Washington, D. C.	141.7	142.2	-0.4	3.7	-0.6	17.4	45.0	50.6
Wichita, Kans. 3/	149.8	150.9	-0.7	1.4	-0.6	16.1	54.1	--
Winston-Salem, N. C. 3/	143.4	143.1	0.2	3.3	2.4	20.2	53.0	--

R - Revised.

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

3/ June 1940 equals 100.

4/ Includes Portsmouth and Newport News.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO AUG. 14, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity		Average Prices Aug. 14 1945	Percent change to Aug. 14, 1945 from					
			July 17 1945	Aug. 15 1944	May 16 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
			Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPC *	"Little Steel" 1/*	Month Before War in Europe
		(Cents)						
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:								
Cereals:								
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.3	0.0	- 0.5	5.3	24.6	55.3	79.6
Macaroni	lb.	15.8	0.6	0	3.3	11.3	14.5	12.9
Wheat cereal 2/	28 oz.	23.4	0.4	0.9	- 1.3	- 2.9	- 0.4	- 3.3
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.7	0	3.1	- 1.5	- 6.9	- 5.6	- 4.3
Corn meal	lb.	6.4	0	1.6	14.3	36.2	52.4	60.0
Rice 2/	"	13.0	0	0.8	2.4	5.7	64.6	73.3
Rollod oats	"	10.4	0	5.1	19.5	20.9	46.5	46.5
Flour, pancake 2/	20 oz.	12.4	0	1.6	17.0	3/	3/	3/
Bakery products:								
Bread, white	lb.	8.6	0	0	- 1.1	1.1	12.8	12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.7	0	1.0	- 1.0	2.1	11.5	10.2
Bread, rye	"	9.2	0	0	0	2.1	10.0	7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	28.6	- 0.7	1.8	- 1.7	3.2	13.9	3/
Soda crackers	"	18.9	0	- 0.5	6.2	15.2	26.0	27.7
MEATS:								
Beef:								
Round steak	lb.	40.9	2.0	- 0.7	-12.6	- 7.5	6.0	12.4
Rib roast	"	33.0	2.2	- 0.3	-12.5	- 2.9	4.8	14.2
Chuck roast	"	28.4	1.8	- 1.0	-10.7	- 1.7	12.7	26.2
Stew meat 2/	"	30.0	2.0	- 3.2	-14.3	3/	3/	3/
Liver	"	36.9	0.8	- 0.8	- 1.6	3/	3/	3/
Hamburger	"	27.4	0.7	- 1.1	-14.9	3/	3/	3/
Veal:								
Cutlets	"	44.4	2.1	- 1.0	-13.5	-17.2	- 1.8	4.5
Roast, boned and rolled 2/	"	34.3	- 0.3	- 2.0	- 9.0	3/	3/	3/
Pork:								
Chops	"	37.2	0.8	- 0.3	-11.2	-13.9	27.8	20.4
Bacon, sliced	"	41.2	0.2	0.7	- 9.8	4.8	36.9	35.5
Ham, sliced	"	49.4	0.4	- 2.0	-16.7	-16.0	9.5	6.5
Ham, whole	"	34.5	- 0.3	- 2.3	-13.3	- 8.7	31.7	25.9
Salt pork	"	22.0	- 0.5	- 0.5	-10.9	- 8.3	31.7	42.9
Liver 2/	"	22.1	0	0.9	- 6.4	3/	3/	3/
Sausage 2/	"	38.7	0.3	1.6	1.0	3/	3/	3/
Bologna, big 2/	"	33.9	0.6	- 0.6	0.3	3/	3/	2/
Lamb:								
Leg	"	40.5	1.8	1.2	- 3.1	19.8	45.7	46.7
Rib chops	"	46.0	1.8	1.5	- 5.3	11.4	31.4	25.3

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO AUG. 14, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Aug. 14 1945	Percent change to Aug. 14, 1945 from					
		July 17 1945	Aug. 15 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GNPR *	"Little Steel" 1/*	Month Before War in Europe
(Cents)							
MEATS: (Continued)							
Poultry:							
Roasting chickens 4/ lb.	47.6	0.7	5.0	6.6	38.7	61.8	66.3
Fish:							
Fish (fresh, frozen) 4/ lb.	5/	0.3	11.7	9.7	53.7	89.8	124.0
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	25.4	- 0.8	- 0.8	- 2.5	7.3	49.0	82.8
Salmon, red 2/ "	39.7	- 1.2	- 1.7	- 4.1	- 0.8	50.4	71.9
DAIRY PRODUCTS:							
Butter lb.	49.9	0	- 0.2	-10.3	9.2	31.3	62.5
Cheese "	35.7	0.8	- 1.1	- 7.0	5.0	32.2	44.5
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	0	0	4.7	20.0	30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	0	0.7	7.4	21.8	31.8
Milk, evaporated 1 1/2 oz. can	10.1	0	1.0	0	16.1	42.3	50.7
EGGS:							
Eggs, fresh 4/ doz.	60.6	9.0	7.5	20.6	48.5	76.0	89.0
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:							
Fresh fruits and vegetables:							
Fresh fruits:							
Apples lb.	13.1	4.8	19.1	1.6	74.7	151.9	197.7
Bananas "	10.5	0	- 6.2	-10.3	-12.5	59.1	72.1
Oranges doz.	51.3	- 2.7	0.8	21.6	63.4	87.9	62.9
Grapefruit 2/ ca.	11.0	- 2.7	5.8	41.0	74.6	3/	3/
Fresh vegetables:							
Beans, green lb.	18.7	-22.1	32.6	7.5	39.6	33.6	159.7
Cabbage "	6.0	- 9.1	22.4	-47.8	33.3	76.5	53.8
Carrots bunch	9.1	- 1.1	4.6	11.0	37.9	51.7	97.8
Lettuce head	12.5	1.6	15.7	-24.2	35.9	48.8	48.8
Onions lb.	7.9	-15.1	21.5	- 8.1	16.2	119.4	119.4
Potatoes 15 lb.	73.8	- 9.9	- 7.9	-20.2	39.2	152.7	114.5
Spinach lb.	11.6	- 2.5	0	0	56.8	58.9	48.7
Sweetpotatoes "	11.4	- 0.9	- 7.3	-36.3	111.1	128.0	107.3
Beets 2/ bunch	8.4	- 6.7	15.1	-27.6	3/	3/	3/
Canned fruits and vegetables:							
Canned fruits:							
Peaches #2 1/2 can	27.2	- 0.7	- 1.8	2.6	16.7	64.8	59.1
Pineapple "	26.3	- 2.2	- 3.7	- 8.4	- 3.0	25.8	25.2
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.4	0	0	2.9	46.9	3/	3/

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO AUG. 14, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Aug. 14 1945	Percent change to Aug. 14, 1945 from						
		July 17 1945	Aug. 15 1944	May 15 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939	
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMFR *	"Little Steel" 1/*	Month Before War in Europe	
		(Cents)						
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)								
Canned vegetables:								
Beans, green #2 can	13.2	0.8	0.0	-12.0	- 5.7	32.0	32.0	
Corn "	14.8	0	2.1	5.7	13.8	38.3	42.3	
Peas "	13.2	0	0.8	-14.8	-16.5	0	- 2.9	
Tomatoes "	12.2	0	1.7	- 4.7	0.8	45.2	41.9	
Soup, vegetable 2/11 oz. can	13.2	- 1.5	- 1.5	0.8	3/	3/	3/	
Dried fruits and vegetables:								
Dried fruits:								
Prunes lb.	17.4	- 1.7	0.6	6.1	41.5	31.2	97.7	
Dried vegetables:								
Navy beans lb.	11.5	0	6.5	15.0	27.8	76.9	98.3	
Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle 2/ oz.	3.8	0	5.6	2.7	3/	3/	3/	
BEVERAGES:								
Coffee lb.	30.5	0.3	1.3	1.7	5.5	47.3	36.8	
Tea 1/4 lb.	24.2	0	1.3	12.6	8.0	37.5	40.7	
Cocoa 2/ 1/2 lb.	10.4	0	1.0	13.0	2.0	14.3	20.9	
FATS AND OILS:								
Lard lb.	18.8	0.5	1.1	- 1.6	5.0	102.2	89.9	
Shortening other than lard:								
In cartons lb.	20.0	0	- 1.0	- 1.0	1.0	77.0	70.9	
In other containers "	24.5	0	- 1.2	0.8	- 5.0	33.9	21.3	
Salad dressing pt.	24.2	- 0.4	- 5.5	- 4.0	- 4.7	20.4	3/	
Oleomargarine lb.	23.9	0.4	- 0.4	1.7	6.7	53.2	44.8	
Peanut butter "	28.6	0.4	0.7	-12.0	6.3	59.8	59.8	
Oil, cooking or salad 2/ pt.	30.5	0.3	- 0.7	0	3/	3/	3/	
SUGAR AND SWEETS:								
Sugar lb.	6.7	0	0	- 1.5	- 2.9	31.4	28.8	
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.8	0	0	1.3	6.8	16.2	15.3	
Molasses 2/ 18 oz.	15.8	0	0	1.3	9.0	17.9	16.2	
Apple butter 2/ 16 oz.	14.1	0	6.0	9.3	3/	3/	3/	

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

2/ Not included in the index.

3/ Not priced in earlier period.

4/ Percent change computed on the index.

5/ Composite price not computed.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX* AND RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD - SEPTEMBER 1945

Retail prices for consumers' goods in large cities declined 0.3 percent between August 15 and September 15, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Lower prices for fresh vegetables and reductions in fuel oil prices more than offset higher prices for furnishings and fall clothing. The Bureau of Labor Statistics consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities for September 15, 1945 was 138.9 percent of the 1935-39 average, about 28 percent higher than on January 1, 1941.

During the month retail food prices dropped 1.1 percent. A 13 percent decline in prices for most fresh vegetables was due mainly to unusually large crops. Largest declines were in the prices of sweet potatoes (25 percent), potatoes and green beans (16 percent), cabbage and spinach (15 percent), and onions (14 percent). Eggs advanced seasonally 7.3 percent, while meat prices were lower in some stores as supplies of beef and veal improved greatly over previous months.

Substantial price ceiling reductions for fuel oil, due to the restoration of tankers to coastwise service, were made by some dealers along the Atlantic Coast several days before the effective date of the order, September 17. The relative importance of gasoline, fuel oil, and motor oil in the index has been increased to reflect expanded current consumption following removal of rationing controls.

Clothing prices rose 1.2 percent between August and September, as low and moderate-priced garments were increasingly scarce. Stocks of men's clothing were at a low for the war period, resulting in higher costs for men's suits, topcoats, overcoats, and most work clothing. However, men's cotton pajamas reappeared in many stores at lower prices as fixed by manufacturers. In most cities women's fur-trimmed dress coats and women's wool dresses retailed at generally higher levels than last season. Shoes for men and children advanced with the relaxation of WPB price line production controls and the substitution of a new method of determining prices under OPA regulation.

The end of the war period brought no relief in the housing situation as returning veterans increased the demand for homes. Average rents showed only slight changes since the last rent survey. The largest change -- 0.6 percent increase between March and September -- was reported in Seattle.

Housefurnishings costs advanced 0.5 percent over the month, as lower-priced articles continued to be scarce. Prices of miscellaneous goods and services continued to edge upward (0.1 percent) as charges for beauty shop services increased in 10 cities, and scattered changes were reported in the cost of medical care.

(end)

*NOTE: This index, formerly called the cost of living index, represents average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full effect of such factors as changes in quality and the availability of goods. During the war the quality of civilian goods has been lowered. The Bureau has attempted to account for the disappearance of low-priced merchandise by pricing the most similar article available. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the average price rise shown for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If small cities were included in the national average, an additional 1/2 percentage point would be added to the index.

General Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1 (the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board), by assuming an even rate of change from December 14, 1940 to the next pricing date.

GMPR - The General Maximum Price Regulation was issued on May 18, 1942. It established retail price ceilings at their highest levels in March 1942.

The President's "Hold-the-line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is therefore used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Sept. 1945	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GNPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
<u>Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0</u>							
ALL ITEMS	128.9	129.3R	126.5	125.1	116.0	100.5	98.6
Food	139.4	140.9	137.0	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing	148.2	146.4R	141.4	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent	108.3	--	108.2	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	110.7	111.4	109.8	107.6	104.9	100.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	95.2	95.2	95.8	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	125.7	127.2	123.4	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	145.8	146.0R	140.7	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	124.6	124.5R	122.4	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4
<u>Percent Change to September 1945</u>							
ALL ITEMS	--	-0.3	1.9	3.0	11.1	27.9	30.7
Food	--	-1.1	1.8	-2.5	14.6	42.8	49.1
Clothing	--	1.2	4.8	15.9	17.4	46.4	47.8
Rent	--	--	0.1	0.3	-1.5	3.1	3.8
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	-0.6	0.8	2.9	5.5	9.8	13.5
Gas & electricity	--	0	-0.6	-0.9	-1.4	-2.4	-3.8
Other fuels & ice	--	-1.2	1.9	5.9	11.3	20.9	30.5
Housefurnishings	--	0.5	4.3	17.3	20.1	46.5	45.9
Miscellaneous	--	0.1	1.8	8.1	12.4	22.4	24.1

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

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TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX- FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO SEPTEMBER 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Sept. 1945	Sept. 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line"*	GMPIR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	-0.3	1.9	3.0	11.1	27.9	30.7
Atlanta, Ga.	--	3.5	5.3	14.6	31.8	34.2
Baltimore, Md.	-0.2	3.6	3.2	11.9	31.4	34.0
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.7	2.3	5.7	12.0	30.9	35.0
Boston, Mass.	-0.9	1.1	1.9	9.9	25.7	28.3
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.7	1.1	0.2	6.6	26.1	30.5
Chicago, Ill.	-0.3	1.1	2.4	9.4	26.0	29.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.3	2.1	4.1	11.2	29.4	32.5
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.5	0.8	2.7	10.6	28.8	31.4
Denver, Colo.	-0.9	1.4	1.8	9.5	26.6	28.4
Detroit, Mich.	-0.3	2.7	2.7	10.1	29.5	32.8
Houston, Tex.	0.2	2.2	2.6	9.8	25.1	26.7
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	1.5	2.9	8.9	27.0	32.1
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	3.1	6.3	15.9	35.6	40.3
Kansas City, Mo.	-0.5	2.2	3.7	11.3	29.1	28.8
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.8	3.1	4.9	11.8	28.3	31.3
Manchester, N. H.	--	0.8	1.5	9.8	29.7	32.9
Memphis, Tenn.	--	1.1	3.1	12.5	31.9	34.6
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	1.9	2.2	10.6	27.6	30.5
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.2	2.0	2.7	7.9	22.9	25.5
Mobile, Ala.	--	0.9	2.3	10.0	30.1	32.5
New Orleans, La.	--	1.8	3.5	13.7	32.2	34.8
New York, N. Y.	-0.4	1.9	4.3	14.3	28.2	30.8
Norfolk, Va.	--	1.9	0.9	11.2	32.3	36.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.3	2.0	2.6	11.6	29.0	30.9
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.2	1.6	4.0	12.2	28.4	32.0
Portland, Maine	--	0.2	1.0	8.4	27.4	29.2
Portland, Oreg.	--	2.7	3.3	11.2	32.6	35.2
Richmond, Va.	--	2.4	2.4	9.9	26.7	28.8
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.5	1.3	2.3	9.7	25.5	29.3
San Francisco, Calif.	0.1	2.1	3.5	12.8	30.3	33.5
Savannah, Ga.	0	2.4	4.9	14.4	36.4	39.3
Scranton, Pa.	--	1.5	1.4	11.8	27.9	32.2
Seattle, Wash.	-0.4	1.9	2.2	9.2	29.7	32.0
Washington, D. C.	0.2	3.4	4.4	12.6	29.2	30.9

* See general explanation of tables on page. 2.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for July and August revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electricity & Ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
AVERAGE							
July	129.4	141.7	145.9	--	111.2	145.6	124.3
August	129.3	140.9	146.4	--	111.4	146.0	124.5
September	128.9	139.4	148.2	108.3	110.7	146.8	124.6
Atlanta, Ga.							
July	--	142.1	--	--	115.3	--	--
August	--	142.1	--	--	115.3	--	--
September	131.5	141.5	142.6	106.8	115.4	146.1	134.3
Baltimore, Md.							
July	133.0	150.4	151.7	--	111.8	151.9	123.6
August	132.6	149.1	152.5	--	111.7	152.3	123.6
September	132.3	148.1	155.1	106.6	111.3	145.7	123.5
Birmingham, Ala.							
July	133.5	146.9	142.0	--	107.5	139.4	127.1
August	133.9	147.5	142.6	--	107.5	139.8	127.3
September	133.0	144.1	145.0	--	107.5	140.3	127.4
Boston, Mass.							
July	125.3	136.6	143.3	--	121.8	145.3	118.4
August	125.7	135.7	143.6	--	122.2	145.6	119.1
September	124.6	133.4	146.4	105.1	116.8	146.6	119.2
Buffalo, N. Y.							
July	129.3	138.9	145.1	--	106.8	145.5	125.7
August	129.4	138.4	146.1	--	107.4	145.4	126.2
September	128.5	135.3	147.0	--	107.4	146.1	126.8
Chicago, Ill.							
July	128.5	140.7	140.3	--	106.4	137.2	122.3
August	127.9	139.8	140.3	--	106.6	137.3	122.4
September	127.5	137.5	142.9	--	106.5	138.5	122.4
Cincinnati, Ohio							
July	129.5	140.3	147.6	--	107.4	144.1	125.0
August	129.3	140.0	148.7	--	107.8	144.2	125.1
September	128.9	138.2	149.3	105.7	107.8	144.2	125.7
Cleveland, Ohio							
July	132.2	145.3	145.6	--	113.6	146.4	122.9
August	132.1	145.6	145.3	--	113.7	146.1	123.0
September	131.4	142.7	147.3	115.8	113.8	146.5	123.3

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

TABLE 3 (continued) - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY CITIES, BY CITIES,
JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for July and August revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electricity & Ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Denver, Colo.							
July	127.8	139.8	136.2	--	104.4	159.3	124.5
August	127.7	139.3	136.7	--	105.1	160.1	124.5
September	126.6	136.1	136.3	--	105.1	160.2	124.4
Detroit, Mich.							
July	130.3	138.3	146.1	--	113.9	156.2	130.1
August	131.2	138.4	147.2	--	114.7	156.7	131.1
September	130.3	136.6	143.7	--	114.6	156.2	131.1
Houston, Tex.							
July	127.5	141.6	140.3	--	91.1	144.1	124.1
August	127.4	141.2	140.4	--	91.1	144.1	124.1
September	127.6	140.5	141.2	109.2	91.1	145.2	125.5
Indianapolis, Ind.							
July	--	136.8	--	--	113.4	--	--
August	--	137.7	--	--	113.6	--	--
September	129.5	136.0	138.3	--	113.6	148.2	128.7
Jacksonville, Fla.							
July	--	152.4	--	--	114.0	--	--
August	--	152.0	--	--	114.0	--	--
September	138.2	151.9	143.0	113.6	117.8	151.6	139.6
Kansas City, Mo.							
July	127.4	135.0	146.4	--	113.0	134.8	126.7
August	127.6	135.2	147.3	--	112.5	134.1	126.6
September	127.0	132.8	147.6	--	112.6	140.4	126.7
Los Angeles, Calif.							
July	130.6	145.2	142.2	--	92.5	141.9	127.9
August	131.0	145.9	143.0	--	92.5	142.8	127.9
September	132.0	147.2	146.2	--	92.5	143.1	128.2
Manchester, N. H.							
July	--	139.4	--	--	123.8	--	--
August	--	136.4	--	--	129.1	--	--
September	130.0	134.9	150.3	107.8	122.5	149.6	122.1
Memphis, Tenn.							
July	--	150.7	--	--	106.6	--	--
August	--	150.9	--	--	106.6	--	--
September	131.6	148.1	149.8	115.4	106.6	142.6	120.2

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

TABLE 3 (continued) - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for July and August revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electricity & Ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Milwaukee, Wis.							
July	--	140.6	--	--	110.9	--	--
August	--	139.4	--	--	111.5	--	--
September	126.6	137.8	140.4	--	111.5	145.0	120.1
Minneapolis, Minn.							
July	125.0	133.7	141.5	--	103.3	139.4	123.1
August	124.9	133.2	141.2	--	104.2	139.8	123.2
September	125.1	132.6	143.6	110.3	104.0	143.8	123.3
Mobile, Ala.							
July	--	151.1	--	--	103.7	--	--
August	--	152.3	--	--	103.3	--	--
September	130.6	148.9	139.0	--	103.6	137.1	120.0
New Orleans, La.							
July	--	157.6	--	--	103.0	--	--
August	--	156.5	--	--	103.0	--	--
September	134.4	155.7	141.3	--	102.9	137.5	121.7
New York, N. Y.							
July	130.6	143.8	152.2	--	115.4	135.8	126.9
August	130.0	141.7	153.9	--	115.5	136.6	126.9
September	129.5	139.7	154.9	--	114.9	136.2	127.1
Norfolk, Va.							
July	--	145.3	--	--	120.4	--	--
August	--	146.1	--	--	120.5	--	--
September	133.1	144.1	144.1	--	120.5	145.2	133.7
Philadelphia, Pa.							
July	128.4	139.2	146.8	--	113.2	143.4	121.2
August	128.4	138.9	147.4	--	113.3	144.2	121.2
September	122.0	137.6	148.9	106.9	113.5	145.1	120.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.							
July	130.7	142.4	165.8	--	111.8	142.8	119.9
August	130.2	141.3	164.8	--	112.1	143.2	120.1
September	129.9	139.6	165.7	--	112.2	142.6	119.8
Portland, Maine							
July	--	136.4	--	--	119.3	--	--
August	--	135.7	--	--	119.7	--	--
September	125.5	133.1	146.6	--	113.5	141.6	122.0

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

TABLE 3 (continued) - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for July and August revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electricity & Ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Portland, Oreg.							
July	--	152.5	--	--	120.7	--	--
August	--	150.9	--	--	120.6	--	--
September	135.3	149.3	143.1	--	120.5	146.1	130.3
Richmond, Va.							
July	--	137.5	--	--	109.8	--	--
August	--	138.3	--	--	109.9	--	--
September	126.2	138.5	144.6	104.2	109.9	147.3	119.0
St. Louis, Mo.							
July	127.0	142.9	141.0	--	107.9	127.2	119.9
August	127.5	144.0	141.5	--	108.0	127.4	120.0
September	126.8	141.4	144.3	105.8	108.3	127.9	120.0
San Francisco, Calif.							
July	133.6	150.1	143.1	--	92.9	132.1	133.1
August	132.5	147.1	143.1	--	92.9	131.9	133.1
September	132.3	147.3	143.6	106.4	92.9	131.6	133.1
Savannah, Ga.							
July	137.7	156.3	144.6	--	113.1	156.2	129.7
August	138.3	157.5	145.4	--	113.1	157.6	130.0
September	138.3	157.2	145.8	--	113.1	157.3	130.5
Scranton, Pa.							
July	--	142.6	--	--	117.6	--	--
August	--	141.3	--	--	117.9	--	--
September	126.9	139.3	149.5	--	117.9	143.7	115.7
Seattle, Wash.							
July	132.7	145.7	145.4	--	104.9	145.5	132.7
August	132.9	145.3	146.0	--	104.9	145.3	132.7
September	132.4	144.2	146.7	111.8	104.7	143.9	132.6
Washington, D. C.							
July	128.9	142.2	156.7	--	111.8	140.9	128.7
August	128.9	141.7	157.0	--	112.1	141.3	128.9
September	129.1	141.5	159.6	--	111.1	142.0	128.9

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

TABIE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM AUGUST 1945 TO SEPTEMBER 1945

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electric- ity & Ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
AVERAGE	-0.3	-1.1	1.2	-0.6	0.5	0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	-	-0.4	--	0.1	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	-0.2	-0.7	1.7	-0.4	-4.3	-0.1
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.7	-2.3	1.7	0	0.4	0.1
Boston, Mass.	-0.9	-1.7	1.9	-4.4	0.7	0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.7	-2.2	0.6	0	0.5	0.5
Chicago, Ill.	-0.3	-1.2	1.9	-0.1	0.9	0
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.3	-1.3	0.4	0	0	0.5
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.5	-2.0	1.4	0.1	0.3	0.2
Denver, Colo.	-0.9	-2.3	0.1	0	0.1	-0.1
Detroit, Mich.	-0.3	-1.2	1.0	-0.1	-0.3	0
Houston, Tex.	0.2	-0.5	0.6	0	0.8	1.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	-1.2	--	0	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	-0.1	--	3.3	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	-0.5	-1.9	0.2	0.1	4.7	0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.8	0.9	2.2	0	0.2	0.2
Manchester, N. H.	--	-1.1	--	-5.1	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	-1.9	--	0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	-1.1	--	0	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.2	-0.5	1.7	-0.2	2.9	0.1
Mobile, Ala.	--	-2.2	--	0.1	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	-0.5	--	-0.1	--	--
New York, N. Y.	-0.4	-1.4	0.6	-0.5	1.2	0.2
Norfolk, Va.	--	-1.4	--	0	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.3	-0.9	1.0	0.2	1.3	-0.4
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.2	-1.2	2.4	0.1	-0.3	-0.2
Portland, Maine	--	-1.9	--	-5.2	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	-1.1	--	-0.1	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	0.1	--	0	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.5	-1.8	2.0	0.3	0.4	0
San Francisco, Calif.	0.1	0.1	0.3	0	-0.2	0
Savannah, Ga.	0	-0.2	0.3	0	-0.2	0.4
Scranton, Pa.	--	-1.4	--	0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	-0.4	-1.1	0.5	-0.2	-1.2	-0.1
Washington, D. C.	0.2	-0.1	1.7	-0.9	0.5	0

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 44 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM JUNE 1945 TO SEPTEMBER 1945

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electric- ity & Ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
AVERAGE	-0.1	-1.2	1.9	0.0	0.6	0.7	0.5
Atlanta, Ga.	<u>1/</u> 1.1	<u>2/</u> 0.6	0.8	<u>3/</u> 0.1	0.1	0.6	2.7
Baltimore, Md.	-0.5	-2.2	3.5	<u>3/</u> 0.1	2.3	-4.3	0
Birmingham, Ala.	0.6	0.3	2.3	--	0	0.6	0.6
Boston, Mass.	-0.7	-2.5	2.6	0	-2.7	1.2	1.4
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.7	-3.5	1.5	--	2.5	3.3	0.9
Chicago, Ill.	-0.5	-1.9	2.1	--	0.6	-0.2	0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.4	-1.7	1.2	<u>3/</u> 0.1	0.4	0.3	0.6
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.7	-2.5	1.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.4
Denver, Colo.	-1.4	-4.2	0.7	--	0.7	2.8	0.2
Detroit, Mich.	0	-1.7	3.3	--	1.1	0.1	0.9
Houston, Tex.	0.7	0.7	0.4	<u>3/</u> -0.2	0	0.8	1.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	0	-1.0	0.9	--	0.2	0.1	1.0
Jacksonville, Fla.	1.9	3.0	0.7	0.1	3.3	0.3	1.7
Kansas City, Mo.	-0.1	-1.2	1.2	--	0.6	3.6	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.1	1.7	3.0	--	0	-1.3	0.5
Manchester, N. H.	-1.0	-1.8	1.7	<u>3/</u> 0	-4.2	0.8	-0.4
Memphis, Tenn.	-0.3	-1.1	0.7	<u>3/</u> -0.3	0.3	2.1	0
Milwaukee, Wis.	-0.3	-2.3	3.3	--	1.4	1.0	0.1
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.4	-0.3	1.8	<u>3/</u> 0.1	1.0	3.5	0.2
Mobile, Ala.	1.0	2.1	0.3	--	-0.1	0	0.2
New Orleans, La.	1.5	2.2	1.9	--	2.7	<u>4/</u> 5.2	-0.1
New York, N. Y.	-0.2	-1.7	2.2	--	0.9	2.1	0.4
Norfolk, Va.	0.6	0.5	0.2	--	0.2	0.5	1.7
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.2	-0.9	2.3	<u>3/</u> 0	3.7	1.3	-0.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.5	-1.1	1.2	--	0.3	-3.4	-0.2
Portland, Maine	-0.9	-1.6	0.7	--	-4.0	0.3	-0.4
Portland, Oreg.	-0.1	-0.7	0.4	--	0.2	0	0.3
Richmond, Va.	0.8	1.8	0.1	<u>3/</u> 0.2	0.3	1.8	0.1
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.5	-1.8	2.3	<u>3/</u> -0.3	0.5	0.7	0.1
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	<u>3/</u> 0.1	0.1	0.2	0
Savannah, Ga.	1.4	2.7	0.9	--	0.1	0.6	0.6
Scranton, Pa.	-1.0	-3.6	1.1	--	6.2	1.4	0.1
Seattle, Wash.	0.3	0.1	0.7	<u>3/</u> 0.6	-0.2	-1.0	0.3
Washington, D. C.	0.5	-0.1	2.1	--	1.4	0.9	0.4

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ June 1945 index revised: 130.1.

2/ June 1945 index revised: 140.6.

3/ Change from March 1945.

4/ Change from Dec. 15, 1944.

TABLE 5 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

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Sept. 1945

Group	Sept. 18 1945 This Month 1/	Aug. 14 1945 Last Month	Sept. 12 1944 Year Ago	May 18 1943 "Hold the Line"*	May 12 1942 CMPR *	Jan. 14 1941 "Little Steel" * 2/	Aug. 15 1939 Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL FOODS	139.4	140.9	137.0	143.0	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	109.1	109.1	108.6	107.6	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	131.6	131.8	129.0	138.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	118.4	118.5	118.3	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.6	112.6	112.2	125.5	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	136.4	136.4	134.6	141.6	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	155.9	157.3	149.3	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	219.8	217.8	200.4	200.5	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	133.4	133.4	133.6	136.9	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	183.9	171.4	168.0	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	172.5	183.5	169.9	190.8	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	182.3	196.2	179.4	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.4	130.3	129.4	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	168.8	168.6	165.3	158.0	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.7	124.7	124.3	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	124.1	124.0	123.0	126.3	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	126.5	126.6	126.3	127.6	127.1	95.3	95.6

Percent Change to Sept. 18, 1945

ALL FOODS	--	-1.1	1.8	- 2.5	14.6	42.5	49.1
Cereals & bakery products	--	0	0.5	1.4	3.7	15.0	16.8
Meats	--	-0.2	2.0	- 4.8	5.9	30.2	37.5
Beef & veal	--	-0.1	0.1	- 9.8	- 4.6	8.2	18.9
Pork	--	0	0.4	-10.3	- 8.6	30.8	28.0
Lamb	--	0	1.3	- 3.7	15.4	30.2	38.1
Chickens	--	-0.9	4.4	5.6	37.5	60.4	64.8
Fish, fresh & canned	--	0.9	9.7	9.6	45.7	85.2	120.7
Dairy products	--	0	-0.1	- 2.6	8.2	26.9	43.3
Eggs	--	7.3	9.5	29.4	59.4	88.8	102.8
Fruits & vegetables	--	-6.0	1.5	- 9.6	34.0	84.9	86.7
Fresh	--	-7.1	1.6	-11.4	40.2	95.2	96.4
Canned	--	0.1	0.8	- 0.5	6.3	42.7	42.4
Dried	--	0.1	2.1	6.8	28.7	69.5	86.9
Beverages	--	0	0.3	0.2	0.1	37.2	31.4
Fats & oils	--	0.1	0.9	- 1.7	1.4	54.5	46.9
Sugar & sweets	--	-0.1	0.2	- 0.9	- 0.5	32.7	32.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

TABLE 6 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
AUG. 14, 1945 TO SEPT. 18, 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- or ages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
AVERAGE	-1.1	0.0	-0.2	0.0	7.3	- 6.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	-0.4	0.1	0	0	9.7	- 5.8	-0.1	0	0
Baltimore, Md.	-0.7	-0.1	0.2	-0.2	7.6	- 4.2	1.1	0.2	0.1
Birmingham, Ala.	-2.3	1.3	0.1	0.1	3.9	-12.8	0	0	0
Boston, Mass.	-1.7	0	0.2	0	5.5	- 9.0	0	0	0.1
Bridgeport, Conn.	-1.0	0	0.4	-0.1	7.6	- 7.1	0	0.2	0
Buffalo, N. Y.	-2.2	-0.1	0.2	-0.1	8.9	-11.3	0.6	0.1	0.1
Butte, Mont.	-0.7	0	-0.5	0	6.1	- 3.4	0	-0.6	0
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	-1.7	0.1	-0.5	-3.7	-2.7	- 2.3	0	-0.1	0
Charleston, S. C.	-0.1	0	0.8	-0.1	7.0	- 3.6	0	0	0
Chicago, Ill.	-1.2	-0.4	-0.6	0	7.1	- 5.4	0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	-1.3	0	-0.2	0	8.5	- 5.6	0.1	0	-0.2
Cleveland, Ohio	-2.0	-0.2	0	0	9.5	- 8.8	0	0.1	-0.2
Columbus, Ohio	-1.1	-0.1	0	-0.1	4.3	- 7.4	0	0.1	-0.2
Dallas, Texas	-0.9	0.1	-0.8	0	5.8	- 4.9	0	0	0.1
Denver, Colo.	-2.3	0	-0.8	0	6.0	- 8.4	0	0	-0.1
Detroit, Mich.	-1.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	5.2	- 6.2	0	0.2	-0.4
Fall River, Mass.	-1.3	0	0.6	0.2	4.1	- 3.6	0	0.5	0
Houston, Texas	-0.5	0	-0.4	0.6	8.0	- 4.2	-0.2	-0.6	-0.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	-1.2	0	-0.5	0.3	5.0	- 6.9	0	0.1	-0.1
Jackson, Miss.	0	0	0.1	-0.1	9.4	- 2.7	0.3	-0.3	0
Jacksonville, Fla.	-0.1	0.3	0.3	0	8.1	- 2.9	0	0	-0.2
Kansas City, Mo.	-1.9	0	0.4	0	-2.0	- 7.7	-0.3	0.2	-0.2
Knoxville, Tenn.	0.1	0.1	0.3	0	7.1	- 2.3	0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Little Rock, Ark.	-0.8	0.1	-0.2	0	8.4	- 5.3	0.1	-0.1	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.9	-0.1	1.1	0.1	8.6	- 0.3	0	0	0
Louisville, Ky.	-1.1	0.1	0.1	0	5.9	- 7.6	0	0	0
Manchester, N. H.	-1.1	0	-0.4	-0.1	5.6	- 6.7	-0.2	-0.1	0.1
Memphis, Tenn.	-1.9	0.5	0.1	-0.1	7.8	- 9.4	0.3	-0.1	-0.1
Milwaukee, Wis.	-1.1	-0.2	0.2	-0.1	10.1	- 7.2	-0.1	-0.4	0.2
Minneapolis, Minn.	-0.5	-0.1	-0.5	0	4.9	- 3.4	0	0	0
Mobile, Ala.	-2.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	4.9	-11.6	-0.1	0.4	0
Newark, N. J.	-1.9	-0.2	-1.0	-0.2	7.9	- 7.9	0.5	0.2	-0.5
New Haven, Conn.	-1.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	8.2	- 6.6	-0.2	0.2	0
New Orleans, La.	-0.5	0.1	-0.1	0	6.0	- 3.4	0	0	-0.1
New York, N. Y.	-1.4	0	-1.0	-0.1	3.4	- 6.0	0	0	-0.2

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 6 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
 PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
 AUG. 14, 1945 TO SEPT. 18, 1945

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 Sept. 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Beverages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweet
Norfolk, Va.	-1.4	-0.1	1.0	-0.1	9.6	- 9.6	-0.2	0.0	1.0
Omaha, Neb.	-0.5	0	-0.2	0	-0.4	- 2.0	0	0	0
Peoria, Ill.	-0.2	-0.1	0.3	-0.1	3.4	- 1.6	0	0.5	0
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.9	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	8.9	- 5.9	-0.1	0.1	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-1.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	7.5	- 6.6	0	-0.2	0.1
Portland, Maine	-1.9	0	-0.2	-0.2	8.7	-11.5	0	0	0
Portland, Oreg.	-1.1	0	-1.1	-0.2	7.8	- 5.1	-0.2	0	0
Providence, R. I.	-1.1	0.1	1.0	-0.1	7.5	- 7.2	0	0	0.1
Richmond, Va.	0.1	0	1.2	0.2	8.6	- 4.8	0	0.1	0
Rochester, N. Y.	-2.1	0	0	-0.1	9.0	-13.2	-0.2	0	0.1
St. Louis, Mo.	-1.3	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	3.7	- 7.0	0.2	0.2	-0.1
St. Paul, Minn.	-0.5	0	0	0	5.0	- 4.5	0	-0.3	0
Salt Lake City, Utah	-0.3	0.1	-0.3	0	8.2	- 3.5	0	-0.2	0.3
San Francisco, Calif.	0.1	0	0.1	0	8.2	- 2.2	-0.1	0	0
Savannah, Ga.	-0.2	0.2	0.2	0	7.4	- 3.0	0	0	-0.1
Scranton, Pa.	-1.4	-0.2	0	-0.3	7.5	- 7.4	0	0.2	-2.5
Seattle, Wash.	-1.1	0	-1.4	-0.1	6.6	- 6.4	0.3	0.1	0
Springfield, Ill.	-1.0	0	-0.1	-0.1	2.5	- 4.0	0	0.4	0
Washington, D. C.	-0.1	0	2.6	-0.1	9.0	- 5.1	0	0	0.2
Wichita, Kans.	-0.7	0.1	0.2	-0.1	-1.4	- 3.0	-0.6	0	-0.2
Winston-Salem, N. C.	-1.0	0	0.6	0	7.6	- 3.2	0	0.1	-0.1

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO SEPTEMBER 18, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent change to Sept. 18, 1945 from					
	Sept. 18 1945	Aug. 14 1945	Aug. 14 1945	Sept. 12 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 14 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 2/*	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	139.4	140.9	-1.1	1.8	-2.5	14.6	42.5	49.1
Atlanta, Ga.	141.5	142.1	-0.4	2.7	-1.0	17.5	50.1	53.0
Baltimore, Md.	148.1	149.1	-0.7	5.3	-2.9	17.7	51.3	56.4
Birmingham, Ala.	144.1	147.5	-2.3	2.7	2.4	19.6	50.1	58.9
Boston, Mass.	133.4	135.7	-1.7	0.4	-3.4	12.8	40.1	42.7
Bridgeport, Conn.	136.0	137.4	-1.0	0.7	-6.0	12.1	40.9	45.9
Buffalo, N. Y.	135.3	138.4	-2.2	0.4	-8.5	8.1	35.0	43.2
Butte, Mont.	137.7	138.7	-0.7	3.5	-0.4	13.3	39.5	46.3
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 3/	142.9	145.3	-1.7	2.8	-1.0	15.3	49.0	--
Charleston, S. C.	139.5	139.7	-0.1	3.6	-0.6	13.2	45.5	46.7
Chicago, Ill.	137.5	139.2	-1.2	0.1	-2.6	13.0	40.0	49.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	138.2	140.0	-1.3	1.8	-0.1	12.9	43.2	52.9
Cleveland, Ohio	142.7	145.6	-2.0	-0.1	-2.5	15.0	43.9	52.5
Columbus, Ohio	132.5	134.0	-1.1	2.4	-2.8	11.7	41.9	50.4
Dallas, Tex.	137.6	138.9	-0.9	3.5	-0.4	17.8	48.6	50.1
Denver, Colo.	136.1	139.3	-2.3	-0.2	-5.4	10.7	43.6	46.8
Detroit, Mich.	136.8	138.4	-1.2	2.4	-4.6	11.8	41.0	51.0
Fall River, Mass.	132.4	134.1	-1.3	0	-5.8	9.6	35.8	38.8
Houston, Tex.	140.5	141.2	-0.5	2.2	-2.2	11.6	36.9	43.7
Indianapolis, Ind.	136.0	137.7	-1.2	1.3	-3.0	8.8	38.5	49.9
Jackson, Miss. 3/	151.2	151.2	0	0.3	-1.2	17.8	43.6	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	151.9	152.0	-0.1	2.6	0.3	19.2	53.7	58.6
Kansas City, Mo.	132.8	135.4	-1.9	1.5	-3.7	11.8	43.7	45.1
Knoxville, Tenn. 3/	160.8	160.6	0.1	1.8	2.7	22.7	65.6	--
Little Rock, Ark.	139.3	140.4	-0.8	1.4	-1.8	13.1	45.7	48.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	147.2	145.9	0.9	4.1	0.7	14.9	44.6	55.6
Louisville, Ky.	133.5	135.0	-1.1	1.4	-5.7	8.9	39.8	45.0
Manchester, N. H.	134.9	136.4	-1.1	0.5	-5.2	8.8	39.6	42.1
Memphis, Tenn.	148.1	150.9	-1.9	1.1	-1.3	19.9	57.2	65.1
Milwaukee, Wis.	137.8	139.4	-1.1	1.7	-2.9	15.0	43.7	51.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	132.6	133.2	-0.5	2.2	-1.7	9.7	33.9	39.6
Mobile, Ala.	148.9	152.3	-2.2	1.6	-0.7	17.4	52.1	55.9
Newark, N. J.	140.7	143.4	-1.9	1.6	-1.2	16.4	42.4	47.2
New Haven, Conn.	135.7	137.2	-1.1	-0.4	-6.9	12.5	41.8	44.8
New Orleans, La.	155.7	156.5	-0.5	1.7	2.1	20.7	52.8	59.5
New York, N. Y.	139.7	141.7	-1.4	1.7	-2.5	18.4	40.4	45.8

For footnotes, see page 15.

TABLE 7 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO SEPTEMBER 18, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent change to Sept. 18, 1945 from					
	Sept. 18 1945	Aug. 14 1945	Aug. 14 1945	Sept. 12 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 2/ *	Month Before War in Europe
Norfolk, Va.	144.1	146.1	-1.4	2.1	-6.0	14.3	50.4	54.0
Omaha, Nebr.	131.1	131.8	-0.5	0.9	-4.9	9.3	33.9	42.0
Peoria, Ill.	145.6	145.9	-0.2	3.6	-2.1	12.9	47.1	55.9
Philadelphia, Pa.	137.6	138.9	-0.9	2.2	-2.8	15.2	44.8	48.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	139.6	141.3	-1.2	1.2	-2.0	15.0	42.4	50.9
Portland, Maine	133.1	135.7	-1.9	-0.4	-5.1	9.4	39.7	38.8
Portland, Oreg.	149.3	150.9	-1.1	3.1	-2.8	11.0	46.8	55.4
Providence, R. I.	140.0	141.6	-1.1	3.0	-0.7	14.7	45.4	49.4
Richmond, Va.	138.5	138.4	0.1	3.3	-2.1	14.6	47.8	50.2
Rochester, N. Y.	134.9	137.3	-2.1	0.8	-3.4	10.3	35.0	46.2
St. Louis, Mo.	141.4	144.0	-1.8	1.1	-2.3	14.2	42.5	50.7
St. Paul, Minn.	131.5	132.1	-0.5	2.8	-2.4	10.8	33.4	39.4
Salt Lake City, Utah	143.4	143.9	-0.3	2.2	-0.9	15.5	47.1	51.6
San Francisco, Calif.	147.3	147.1	0.1	2.8	-0.5	17.4	47.9	57.0
Savannah, Ga.	157.2	157.5	-0.2	2.9	2.2	20.6	56.4	62.6
Scranton, Pa.	139.3	141.3	-1.4	0.9	-6.1	15.1	42.9	51.2
Seattle, Wash.	144.2	145.8	-1.1	1.8	-4.1	11.0	42.8	52.6
Springfield, Ill.	144.7	146.1	-1.0	1.5	-2.6	13.0	50.4	53.8
Washington, D. C.	141.5	141.7	-0.1	4.7	-0.7	17.2	44.8	50.4
Wichita, Kans. 3/	148.7	149.8	-0.7	1.2	-1.3	15.3	53.0	--
Winston-Salem, N. C. 3/	142.0	143.4	-1.0	3.3	1.4	19.0	51.5	--

* See general explanations of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

3/ June 1940 equals 100.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO SEPTEMBER 18, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity		Average Prices Sept. 18, 1945	Percent change to Sept. 18, 1945 from						
			Aug. 14 1945	Sept. 12 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939	
			Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	CMPR *	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe	
(Cents)									
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:									
Cereals:									
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.2	-0.2	-0.3	5.6	24.4	55.1	79.3	
Macaroni	lb.	15.7	-0.6	0	2.6	10.6	13.8	12.1	
Wheat cereal 2/	28 oz.	23.5	0.4	1.3	- 0.8	- 2.5	0	- 2.9	
Corn flakes	8 oz.	6.7	0	3.1	- 1.5	- 6.9	- 5.6	- 4.3	
Corn meal	lb.	6.5	1.6	3.2	16.1	38.3	54.8	62.5	
Rice 2/-	"	12.8	-1.5	0	0.8	4.1	62.0	70.7	
Rolled oats	"	10.4	0	4.0	19.5	20.9	46.5	46.5	
Flour, pancake 2/	20 oz.	12.4	0	1.6	17.0	3/	3/	3/	
Bakery products:									
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	0	0	- 1.1	1.1	12.3	12.8	
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.6	-1.0	0	- 2.0	1.1	10.3	9.1	
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	0	0	2.1	10.0	7.6	
Vanilla cookies	"	23.7	0.3	3.2	- 1.4	3.6	14.3	3/	
Soda crackers	"	18.9	0	0	6.2	15.2	26.0	27.7	
MEATS:									
Beef:									
Round steak	lb.	41.0	0.2	0.2	-12.4	- 7.2	6.2	12.6	
Rib roast	"	33.1	0.3	0.6	-12.2	- 2.6	5.1	14.5	
Chuck roast	"	23.3	-0.4	-0.7	-11.0	- 2.1	12.3	25.8	
Stew meat 2/	"	29.8	-0.7	-2.6	-14.9	3/	3/	3/	
Liver	"	37.1	0.5	-0.3	- 1.1	3/	3/	3/	
Hamburger	"	27.4	0	-0.4	-14.9	3/	3/	3/	
Veal:									
Cutlets	"	44.4	0	-0.7	-13.5	-17.2	- 1.8	4.5	
Roast, boned and rolled 2/	"	34.7	1.2	-2.0	- 8.0	3/	3/	3/	
Pork:									
Chops	"	37.2	0	-0.3	-11.2	-13.9	27.8	20.4	
Bacon, sliced	"	41.2	0	0.7	- 9.8	4.8	36.9	35.5	
Ham, sliced	"	49.4	0	-1.8	-16.7	-16.0	9.5	6.5	
Ham, whole	"	34.4	-0.3	-2.5	-13.6	- 9.0	31.3	25.5	
Salt pork	"	22.0	0	-0.5	-10.9	- 8.3	31.7	42.9	
Liver 2/	"	22.2	0.5	1.4	- 5.9	3/	3/	3/	
Sausage 2/	"	38.7	0	1.3	1.0	3/	3/	3/	
Bologna, big 2/	"	34.0	0.3	-0.3	0.6	3/	3/	3/	
Lamb:									
Leg	"	40.5	0	1.5	-3.1	19.8	45.7	46.7	
Rib chops	"	45.8	-0.4	1.6	-5.8	10.9	30.9	24.8	

For footnotes, see page 18.

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO SEPTEMBER 18, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Sept. 18, 1945	Percent change to Sept. 18, 1945 from					
		Aug. 14 1945	Sept. 12 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
(Cents)							
MEATS: (Continued)							
Poultry:							
Roasting chickens <u>4/</u> lb.	47.0	- 0.9	4.4	5.6	37.5	60.4	64.8
Fish:							
Fish (fresh, frozen) <u>4/</u> "	<u>5/</u>	1.1	11.3	10.9	55.3	91.9	126.4
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.3	- 0.4	1.7	- 2.9	6.9	48.4	82.0
Salmon, red <u>2/</u> "	39.9	0.5	- 1.2	- 3.6	- 0.2	51.1	72.7
DAIRY PRODUCTS:							
Butter lb.	50.0	0.2	0	-10.1	9.4	31.6	62.9
Cheese "	35.6	- 0.3	- 1.4	- 7.3	4.7	31.9	44.1
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	0	0	4.7	20.0	30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	0	0.7	7.4	21.8	31.8
Milk, evaporated 14½ oz. can	10.0	- 1.0	0	- 1.0	14.9	40.8	49.3
EGGS:							
Eggs, fresh <u>4/</u> doz.	65.2	7.3	9.5	29.4	59.4	88.8	102.8
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:							
Fresh fruits and vegetables:							
Fresh fruits:							
Apples lb.	13.3	1.5	37.1	3.1	77.3	155.8	202.3
Bananas "	10.5	0	- 5.4	-10.3	-12.5	59.1	72.1
Oranges doz.	51.6	0.6	2.0	22.3	64.3	89.0	63.8
Grapefruit <u>2/</u> ea.	11.3	2.7	2.7	44.9	79.4	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Fresh vegetables:							
Beans, green lb.	15.8	-15.5	- 8.1	- 9.2	17.9	12.9	119.4
Cabbage "	5.1	-15.0	2.0	-55.7	13.3	50.0	30.8
Carrots bunch	8.9	- 2.2	0	8.5	34.8	48.3	93.5
Lettuce head	12.1	- 3.2	- 0.8	-26.7	31.5	44.0	44.0
Onions lb.	6.8	-13.9	23.6	-20.9	0	88.9	88.9
Potatoes 15 lb.	61.9	-16.1	-14.5	-33.1	16.8	112.0	79.9
Spinach lb.	9.9	-14.7	-23.3	-14.7	33.8	35.6	26.9
Sweetpotatoes "	8.6	-24.6	- 1.1	-52.0	59.3	72.0	56.4
Beets <u>2/</u> bunch	8.1	- 3.6	5.2	-30.2	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Canned fruits and vegetables:							
Canned fruits:							
Peaches #2½ can	27.3	0.4	- 2.5	3.0	17.2	65.5	59.6
Pineapple "	26.3	0	- 3.7	- 8.4	- 3.0	25.8	25.2
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.5	0.7	1.4	3.6	48.0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>

For footnotes, see page 18.

September 1945

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
 AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO SEPTEMBER 18, 1945
 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Sept. 18, 1945	Percent change to Sept. 18, 1945 from					
		Aug. 14, 1945	Sept. 12, 1944	May 18, 1943	May 12, 1942	Jan. 14, 1941	Aug. 15, 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GIPR *	"Little Steel." 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
(Cents)							
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green #2 can	13.1	- 0.8	0	-12.7	- 6.4	31.0	31.0
Corn "	14.8	0	2.1	5.7	13.8	38.3	42.3
Peas "	13.2	0	0	-14.3	-16.5	0	- 2.9
Tomatoes "	12.1	- 0.8	0.8	- 5.5	0	44.0	40.7
Soup, vegetable 2/ 11 oz. can	13.2	0	- 1.5	0.8	3/	3/	3/
Dried fruits and vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes lb.	17.5	0.6	1.2	6.7	42.3	82.3	98.9
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans lb.	11.5	0	5.5	15.0	27.8	76.9	38.3
Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle 2/ oz.	3.8	0	5.6	2.7	3/	3/	3/
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee lb.	30.6	0.3	1.3	2.0	5.9	47.8	37.2
Tea 1/4 lb.	24.2	0	1.3	12.6	8.0	37.5	40.7
Cocoa 2/ 1/2 lb.	10.4	0	0	13.0	2.5	14.3	20.9
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard lb.	18.8	0	0.5	- 1.6	5.0	102.2	89.9
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons lb.	20.0	0	- 1.0	- 1.0	1.0	77.0	70.9
In other containers "	24.5	0	- 1.2	0.8	- 5.0	33.9	21.3
Salad dressing pint	24.0	- 0.8	- 7.0	- 4.3	- 5.5	19.4	3/
Oleomargarine lb.	24.3	1.7	1.2	3.4	8.5	55.3	47.3
Peanut butter "	23.6	0	0.7	-12.0	6.3	59.8	59.8
Oil, cooking or salad 2/ pint	30.0	- 1.6	- 2.0	- 1.6	3/	3/	3/
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar lb.	6.7	0	0	- 1.5	- 2.9	31.4	28.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.8	0	0	1.3	6.3	16.2	15.3
Molasses 2/ 16 oz.	15.8	0	0	1.3	9.0	17.9	16.2
Apple butter 2/ 16 oz.	14.2	0.7	6.0	10.1	3/	3/	3/

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

2/ Not included in the index.

3/ Not priced in earlier period.

4/ Percent change computed on the index.

5/ Composite price not computed.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX* AND RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD - OCTOBER 1945

Retail prices of goods and services used by moderate-income city families showed no change on the average between mid-September and mid-October, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Clothing costs increased further by 0.1 percent, while prices for all other groups of items in the index decreased slightly by 0.1 percent. The consumers' price index for October 15 and September 15, 1945 was 128.9 percent of the 1935-39 average.

Food costs in large cities declined 0.1 percent during the month, as meats decreased 0.5 percent and fruits and vegetables showed no change. Sweet potatoes and cabbage prices dropped seasonally by 10 and 6 percent, while spinach and green beans increased 12 and 8 percent, respectively. Prices of apples advanced 2.3 percent following ceiling adjustments in August and September; they are now 13.6 cents per pound as compared with 4.0 cents in October 1939. Effects of the removal of subsidies on butter and peanut butter late in October and any price changes due to the lifting of rationing on meats on November 24 will not be reflected in the index until November and December.

Clothing costs continued to edge upward between mid-September and mid-October as sustained civilian demands coupled with the purchases of returning service men further depleted stocks of men's apparel. Higher-priced garments only were available. Increases were reported for topcoats, overcoats, suits, work trousers and overalls, business shirts, underwear, socks, sweaters, and felt hats. In the last month of shoe rationing, prices of men's shoes moved up slightly and shoe repair costs advanced in a few cities.

Average retail prices of housefurnishings and miscellaneous goods and services decreased 0.1 percent over the month. Prices of sheets advanced more than 5 percent due to the adjustment of retailers' margins for increases previously allowed manufacturers.

The decline of 0.1 percent for miscellaneous goods and services represents the first decrease that has occurred in this group since June 1940. Reductions in transportation costs to the Atlantic Coast lowered gasoline prices between 3 and 6 percent in eastern cities. Cigarette prices dropped in a number of cities as retailers resumed their practice of selling cartons and two or more packs at a time. Charges for beauty shop services increased in four cities.

Fuel, electricity and ice costs declined 0.1 percent. Lower gas rates to consumers in Denver resulted from a decrease in wholesale prices growing out of a recent Supreme Court decision.

Rents are surveyed only during the quarterly months of March, June, September, and December.

(end)

*Note: This index, formerly called the cost of living index, measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The index does not show the full effect of such factors as changes in quality and the availability of goods. During the war the quality of civilian goods has been lowered. The Bureau has attempted to account for the disappearance of low-priced merchandise by pricing the most similar article available. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 index points to the index for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If small cities were included in the national average, another 1/2 point would be added.

General Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1 (the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board), by assuming an even rate of change from December 14, 1940 to the next pricing date.

GMPR - The General Maximum Price Regulation was issued on May 18, 1942. It established retail price ceilings at their highest levels in March 1942.

The President's "hold-the-line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is therefore used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

	Oct. 1945	Sept. 1945	Oct. 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
Group	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	128.9	128.9	126.5	125.1	116.0	100.8	98.6
Food	139.3	139.4	136.4	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing	148.3	148.2	141.9	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent	--	108.3	--	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	110.6	110.7	109.8	107.6	104.9	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	95.0	95.2	95.8	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	125.7	125.7	123.5	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	146.6	146.8	141.4	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	124.5	124.6	122.8	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to October 1945

ALL ITEMS	--	0	1.9	3.0	11.1	27.9	30.7
Food	--	-0.1	2.1	-2.6	14.6	42.7	49.0
Clothing	--	0.1	4.5	15.9	17.5	46.5	47.9
Rent ^{1/}	--	--	--	0.3	-1.5	3.1	3.8
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	-0.1	0.7	2.8	5.4	9.7	13.4
Gas & electricity	--	-0.2	-0.8	-1.1	-1.7	-2.6	-4.0
Other fuels & ice	--	0	1.8	5.9	11.3	20.9	30.5
Housefurnishings	--	-0.1	3.7	17.2	20.0	46.3	45.7
Miscellaneous	--	-0.1	1.4	8.0	12.3	22.3	24.0

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

^{1/} Percent change to September 1945.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES
PERCENT CHANGES TO OCTOBER 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Sept. 1945	Oct. 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line"*	GMPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	0.0	1.9	3.0	11.1	27.9	30.7
Baltimore, Md.	-0.2	2.9	3.0	11.7	31.1	33.7
Birmingham, Ala.	0.1	2.5	5.8	12.1	31.0	35.1
Boston, Mass.	-0.1	1.5	1.8	9.8	25.6	28.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.1	1.2	-0.2	6.7	26.2	30.6
Chicago, Ill.	0.1	1.4	2.5	9.5	26.1	29.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.3	2.8	4.4	11.6	29.8	32.9
Cleveland, Ohio	0.2	1.2	2.9	10.9	29.1	31.7
Denver, Colo.	0.1	1.2	1.8	9.6	26.7	28.5
Detroit, Mich.	-0.1	2.8	2.7	10.0	29.4	32.7
Houston, Tex.	-0.2	2.2	2.3	9.6	24.8	26.4
Kansas City, Mo.	0	2.4	3.7	11.3	29.1	28.8
Los Angeles, Calif.	0	2.6	4.9	11.8	28.8	31.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	0	1.7	2.7	7.9	22.9	25.5
New York, N. Y.	-0.2	1.7	4.1	14.1	28.0	30.6
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.2	2.2	2.4	11.4	28.8	30.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.1	2.0	4.1	12.3	28.5	32.1
St. Louis, Mo.	0.1	1.8	2.3	9.8	25.6	29.4
San Francisco, Calif.	0.2	1.5	3.7	13.0	30.6	33.8
Savannah, Ga.	-0.6	2.2	4.2	13.7	35.6	38.5
Seattle, Wash.	-0.4	1.1	1.9	8.8	29.2	31.5
Washington, D. C.	-0.2	3.2	4.1	12.3	28.9	30.6

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, OCTOBER, 1945

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
AVERAGE	128.9	139.3	148.3	110.6	146.6	124.5
Atlanta, Ga.	--	140.5	--	115.4	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	132.0	147.5	155.5	111.3	146.9	133.0
Birmingham, Ala.	133.1	144.2	145.1	107.6	140.2	127.4
Boston, Mass.	124.5	133.3	146.7	116.8	140.0	119.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	128.6	135.6	147.0	107.4	147.3	126.4
Chicago, Ill.	127.6	137.8	141.9	106.5	138.7	122.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	129.3	139.0	149.2	107.7	144.1	126.1
Cleveland, Ohio	131.7	143.3	147.8	113.8	147.0	123.5
Denver, Colo.	126.7	138.0	136.9	97.3	160.8	124.5
Detroit, Mich.	130.7	136.4	148.6	114.7	156.4	131.1
Houston, Tex.	127.3	139.7	141.3	91.1	145.3	125.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	136.0	--	113.6	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	149.0	--	117.8	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	127.0	132.9	147.7	112.6	140.7	126.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	132.0	147.2	146.5	92.5	143.4	128.2
Manchester, N. H.	--	134.6	--	122.5	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	148.6	--	106.6	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	137.4	--	111.5	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	125.1	132.6	143.6	104.1	143.9	123.3
Mobile, Ala.	--	148.1	--	103.6	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	154.4	--	102.8	--	--
New York, N. Y.	129.3	139.5	155.5	115.0	136.9	126.7
Norfolk, Va.	--	144.3	--	120.5	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	127.8	137.2	149.0	113.4	146.2	120.4
Pittsburgh, Pa.	130.0	140.0	169.4	112.1	143.0	119.4
Portland, Maine	--	133.0	--	113.5	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	149.7	--	120.5	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	137.7	--	109.9	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	126.9	141.4	144.8	108.3	123.4	120.0
San Francisco, Calif.	132.9	147.9	143.6	92.9	131.5	133.1
Savannah, Ga.	137.5	155.4	145.8	113.2	153.0	129.8
Scranton, Pa.	--	138.7	--	117.7	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	131.9	142.7	147.5	104.7	144.5	132.3
Washington, D. C.	128.8	140.2	160.5	111.1	143.9	123.7

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM SEPTEMBER, 1945 TO OCTOBER, 1945

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
AVERAGE	0.0	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	--	-0.7	--	0	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	-0.2	-0.4	0.3	0	0.8	-0.4
Birmingham, Ala.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0
Boston, Mass.	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	0	-4.5	-0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.1	0.2	0	0	0.3	-0.3
Chicago, Ill.	0.1	0.2	-0.7	0	0.1	0
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.3	0.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.3
Cleveland, Ohio	0.2	0.4	0.3	0	0.3	0.2
Denver, Colo.	0.1	1.4	0.1	-7.4	0.4	0.1
Detroit, Mich.	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0
Houston, Tex.	-0.2	-0.6	0.1	0	0.1	-0.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	0	--	0	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	-1.9	--	0	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0	0.1	0.1	0	0.2	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	0	0	0.2	0	0.2	0
Manchester, N. H.	--	-0.2	--	0	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	0.3	--	0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	-0.3	--	0	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0	0	0	0.1	0.1	0
Mobile, Ala.	--	-0.5	--	0	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	-0.8	--	-0.1	--	--
New York, N. Y.	-0.2	-0.1	0.4	0.1	-0.9	-0.3
Norfolk, Va.	--	0.1	--	0	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.1	0.3	0.4	-0.1	0.1	-0.3
Portland, Maine	--	-0.1	--	0	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	0.3	--	0	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	-0.6	--	0	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	0.1	0	0.3	0	0.4	0
San Francisco, Calif.	0.2	0.4	0	0	-0.1	0
Savannah, Ga.	-0.6	-1.1	0	0.1	0.4	-0.5
Scranton, Pa.	--	-0.4	--	-0.2	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	-0.4	-1.0	0.5	0	0.4	-0.2
Washington, D. C.	-0.2	-0.9	0.6	0	1.3	-0.2

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 5 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Oct. 16 1945 This Month 1/	Sept. 18 1945 Last Month	Oct. 17 1944 Year Ago	May 18 1943 "Hold the Line"*	May 12 1942 GMFR *	Jan. 14 1941 "Little Steel" * 2/	Aug. 15 1939 Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL FOODS	139.3	139.4	136.4	143.0	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	109.1	109.1	108.6	107.6	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	131.0	131.6	129.4	138.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	118.2	118.4	118.2	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.6	112.6	112.2	125.5	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	136.2	136.4	134.7	141.6	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	152.3	155.9	149.9	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	221.3	219.8	205.8	200.5	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	133.3	133.4	133.6	136.9	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	165.5	183.9	175.0	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	172.5	172.5	162.9	190.8	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	182.3	182.3	170.4	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.4	130.4	129.7	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	168.9	168.8	165.7	158.0	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.7	124.7	124.3	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	124.0	124.1	123.1	126.3	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	126.5	126.5	126.4	127.6	127.1	95.3	95.6
Percent Change to October 16, 1945							
ALL FOODS	--	-0.1	2.1	-2.6	14.6	42.4	49.0
Cereals & bakery products	--	0	0.5	1.4	3.7	15.0	16.8
Meats	--	-0.5	1.2	-5.3	5.4	29.6	36.9
Beef & veal	--	-0.2	0	-9.9	4.8	8.0	18.7
Pork	--	0	0.4	-10.3	-8.6	30.8	28.0
Lamb	--	-0.1	1.1	-3.8	15.2	38.0	37.9
Chickens	--	-2.3	1.6	3.2	34.3	56.7	61.0
Fish, fresh & canned	--	0.7	7.5	10.4	46.7	86.4	122.2
Dairy products	--	-0.1	-0.2	-2.6	8.1	26.8	43.2
Eggs	--	0.9	3.6	30.5	60.7	90.5	104.5
Fruits & vegetables	--	0	5.9	-9.6	34.0	84.9	86.7
Fresh	--	0	7.0	-11.4	40.2	95.2	96.4
Canned	--	0	0.5	-0.5	6.3	42.7	42.4
Dried	--	0.1	1.9	6.9	28.7	69.6	87.0
Beverages	--	0	0.3	0.2	0.1	37.2	31.4
Fats & oils	--	-0.1	0.7	-1.8	1.3	54.4	46.7
Sugar & sweets	--	0	0.1	-0.9	-0.5	32.7	32.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

TABLE 6 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES *
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
SEPT. 18, 1945 TO OCT. 16, 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Beverages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
AVERAGE	-0.1	0.0	-0.5	-0.1	0.9	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0
Atlanta, Ga.	-0.7	-0.2	0	0	0.3	-3.7	0	0	0.1
Baltimore, Md.	-0.4	0	0.1	-0.4	1.4	-1.7	0.5	0	-0.4
Birmingham, Ala.	0.1	0.4	-0.1	0	1.1	-0.3	0	-0.5	0
Boston, Mass.	-0.1	0	-1.6	-0.2	2.0	1.2	0	0	0
Bridgeport, Conn.	0.3	0	0.5	-0.1	2.2	-0.1	-0.2	0	0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.2	-0.1	0.2	-0.1	1.5	0.3	-0.2	-0.2	0
Butte, Mont.	-0.7	0.3	-0.9	-0.1	1.6	-2.6	-0.1	1.2	-0.2
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	-0.5	0.1	-0.9	0	1.2	-1.3	0	-0.2	0
Charleston, S. C.	-0.1	0	0.8	0	0.7	-1.7	0	0.5	0
Chicago, Ill.	0.2	-0.2	-1.1	-0.1	0.9	2.2	-0.1	0	0
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.5	1.9	0	0	-0.3
Cleveland, Ohio	0.4	0	-1.0	-0.1	0.5	2.2	-0.1	-0.1	0
Columbus, Ohio	0.1	-0.1	-0.6	-0.3	2.3	0.1	0	0	0
Dallas, Texas	-0.4	0	0	0	1.2	-2.0	-0.5	-0.1	-0.2
Denver, Colo.	1.4	0.1	0.8	0	0.4	4.1	0	0	0.1
Detroit, Mich.	-0.3	0	-0.5	-0.2	0.9	-0.6	0	-0.2	0.5
Fall River, Mass.	0.3	0	0.3	0	0.4	1.1	0	0	0
Houston, Texas	-0.6	0.1	-0.2	-0.2	1.1	-2.7	0	0	0
Indianapolis, Ind.	0	0	-0.1	-0.3	2.1	-0.4	0	0	-0.3
Jackson, Miss.	-0.8	0.1	-0.3	0	0.7	-3.2	0	0	-1.5
Jacksonville, Fla.	-1.9	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3	0.6	-7.4	-0.4	0.1	-0.2
Kansas City, Mo.	0.1	0.2	0	-0.1	6.4	-1.9	-0.1	0.1	0.2
Knoxville, Tenn.	0.2	-0.2	-0.7	-0.1	0.6	1.7	0	-0.2	0
Little Rock, Ark.	-0.7	0	-0.3	0	1.3	-2.7	0.6	-0.9	0.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	0	0.1	0	-0.1	-0.7	0.3	-0.2	-0.1	0
Louisville, Ky.	0	0	0.2	-0.2	1.4	-1.2	0	0	0
Manchester, N. H.	-0.2	-0.2	-0.7	0	0.6	-0.5	-0.2	-0.1	0
Memphis, Tenn.	0.3	0	-0.9	-0.1	1.7	1.6	0	0.1	0.1
Milwaukee, Wis.	-0.3	-0.1	-0.9	0.2	0.7	-0.5	-0.1	-0.1	0
Minneapolis, Minn.	0	0.2	-0.2	0	0.1	-0.1	0	0.1	0
Mobile, Ala.	-0.5	-0.3	-0.3	0	0.9	-2.5	-0.7	0	0
Newark, N. J.	0.2	0.1	-0.8	0	1.1	1.7	0.5	0.3	0.4
New Haven, Conn.	-0.1	0.1	-0.5	-0.1	2.6	-0.6	-0.1	-0.1	0
New Orleans, La.	-0.8	-0.1	-0.7	-0.1	1.0	-2.9	0	-0.2	0.1
New York, N. Y.	-0.1	0.1	-1.0	-0.1	0.9	0.4	0	-0.1	0

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 6 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
SEPT. 18, 1945 TO OCT. 16, 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Beverages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
Norfolk, Va.	0.1	-0.2	0.8	-0.2	0.4	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Omaha, Nebr.	0	0.1	0	0	3.0	-1.1	3.7	0	0
Peoria, Ill.	-0.1	0	-0.1	0.1	0.4	-0.3	0	0	0.7
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.3	-0.1	-0.5	0.1	0.5	-1.0	0.2	0.2	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.3	0.1	0.3	-0.2	0.5	0.8	-0.2	0.2	-0.1
Portland, Maine	-0.1	0.1	1.0	-0.1	-0.6	-1.4	0	0	0
Portland, Oreg.	0.3	0	0.8	0.1	0.6	0.2	-1.5	-0.3	0
Providence, R. I.	-0.6	0	-1.0	0	1.0	-1.9	0.2	0	-0.6
Richmond, Va.	-0.6	-0.3	-0.4	-0.1	0.2	-2.1	0.9	-0.1	0
Rochester, N. Y.	-0.1	0.1	-0.8	0.1	1.4	-3.0	0	0	0
St. Louis, Mo.	0	0.1	-0.2	0.1	0.6	0.3	-0.2	0	0
St. Paul, Minn.	-0.1	0.3	-0.1	0	-0.1	-0.5	0	-0.4	0.1
Salt Lake City, Utah	0.8	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	0.9	2.9	0.1	0	-0.2
San Francisco, Calif.	0.4	0	0.3	0	0.7	1.1	-0.1	0	0
Savannah, Ga.	-1.1	0	0.1	-0.1	2.4	-5.6	0.1	-0.7	0
Scranton, Pa.	-0.4	-0.3	0.2	0	0.9	-2.0	-0.4	0	0.1
Seattle, Wash.	-1.0	0.2	-0.1	0.1	-1.4	-4.1	-0.1	0.1	0.8
Springfield, Ill.	0.2	0	-0.2	0	4.1	0.2	0	0	0.7
Washington, D. C.	-0.9	0.1	-1.1	-0.4	1.2	-2.1	0.4	0.1	-0.1
Wichita, Kans.	-0.3	0.7	0.2	0.1	4.5	-3.5	0	0.1	1.6
Winston-Salem, N. C.	0.4	0	0.1	0	-0.2	2.2	0	0	-0.2

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO OCTOBER 16, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent change to Oct. 16, 1945 from					
	Oct. 16 1945	Sept. 18 1945	Sept. 18 1945	Oct. 17 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMFR *	"Little Steel" 2/*	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	139.3	139.4	-0.1	2.1	-2.6	14.6	42.4	49.0
Atlanta, Ga.	140.5	141.5	-0.7	2.6	-1.7	16.7	49.0	51.9
Baltimore, Md.	147.5	148.1	-0.4	3.9	-3.3	17.2	50.7	55.8
Birmingham, Ala.	144.2	144.1	0.1	3.4	2.5	19.7	50.2	59.0
Boston, Mass.	133.3	133.4	-0.1	1.7	-3.5	12.7	40.0	42.6
Bridgeport, Conn.	136.4	136.0	0.3	0.7	-5.7	12.4	41.3	46.4
Buffalo, N. Y.	135.6	135.3	0.2	0.7	-8.3	8.3	35.3	43.5
Butte, Mont.	136.7	137.7	-0.7	2.7	-1.2	12.5	38.5	45.3
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 2/	142.2	142.9	-0.5	2.4	-1.5	14.8	48.3	--
Charleston, S. C.	139.4	139.5	-0.1	3.6	-0.6	13.1	45.4	46.6
Chicago, Ill.	137.8	137.5	0.2	1.5	-2.3	13.2	40.3	49.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	139.0	138.2	0.6	4.2	0.5	13.6	44.0	53.8
Cleveland, Ohio	143.3	142.7	0.4	1.0	-2.1	15.5	44.5	53.1
Columbus, Ohio	132.6	132.5	0.1	3.0	-2.7	11.8	42.0	50.5
Dallas, Tex.	137.1	137.6	-0.4	3.9	-0.8	17.4	48.1	49.5
Denver, Colo.	138.0	136.1	1.4	1.3	-4.0	12.3	45.6	43.9
Detroit, Mich.	136.4	136.8	-0.3	2.7	-4.9	11.4	40.6	50.6
Fall River, Mass.	132.8	132.4	0.3	1.2	-5.5	9.9	36.2	39.2
Houston, Tex.	139.7	140.5	-0.6	2.3	-2.8	11.0	36.2	42.8
Indianapolis, Ind.	136.0	136.0	0	2.5	-3.0	8.8	38.5	49.9
Jackson, Miss. 2/	150.0	151.2	-0.8	0.5	-2.0	16.9	42.5	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	149.0	151.9	-1.9	2.0	-1.7	17.0	50.8	55.5
Kansas City, Mo.	132.9	132.8	0.1	2.5	-3.6	11.9	43.8	45.2
Knoxville, Tenn. 3/	161.1	160.8	0.2	3.1	2.9	23.0	65.9	--
Little Rock, Ark.	138.3	139.3	-0.7	2.1	-2.5	12.3	44.7	47.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	147.2	147.2	0	2.9	0.7	14.9	44.6	55.6
Louisville, Ky.	133.5	133.5	0	1.9	-5.7	8.9	39.8	45.0
Manchester, N. H.	134.6	134.9	-0.2	0.9	-5.4	8.5	39.3	41.8
Memphis, Tenn.	148.6	148.1	0.3	2.6	-1.0	20.3	57.7	65.7
Milwaukee, Wis.	137.4	137.8	-0.3	1.3	-3.2	14.7	43.3	50.8
Minneapolis, Minn.	132.6	132.6	0	1.7	-1.7	9.7	33.9	39.6
Mobile, Ala.	148.1	148.9	-0.5	1.9	-1.2	16.8	51.3	55.1
Newark, N. J.	141.0	140.7	0.2	1.6	-1.0	16.6	42.7	47.5
New Haven, Conn.	135.5	135.7	-0.1	-0.1	-7.0	12.4	41.6	44.6
New Orleans, La.	154.4	155.7	-0.8	2.5	1.2	19.7	51.5	58.2
New York, N. Y.	139.5	139.7	-0.1	1.7	-2.7	18.2	40.2	45.6

For footnotes, see page .

TABLE 7 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO OCTOBER 16, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent change to Oct. 16, 1945 from					
	Oct. 16	Sept. 18	Sept. 18	Oct. 17	May 18	May 12	Jan. 14	Aug. 15
	1945	1945	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GNPR *	"Little Steel" 2/*	Month Before War in Europe
Norfolk, Va.	144.3	144.1	0.1	2.5	-5.9	14.4	50.6	54.2
Omaha, Nebr.	131.1	131.1	0	0.8	-4.9	9.3	33.9	42.0
Peoria, Ill.	145.5	145.6	-0.1	4.0	-2.2	12.8	47.0	55.8
Philadelphia, Pa.	137.2	137.6	-0.3	2.8	-3.1	14.9	44.4	47.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	140.0	139.6	0.3	2.5	-1.7	15.3	42.9	51.4
Portland, Maine	133.0	133.1	-0.1	-0.6	-5.2	9.3	39.6	38.7
Portland, Oreg.	149.7	149.3	0.3	2.2	-2.5	11.3	47.2	55.8
Providence, R. I.	139.1	140.0	-0.6	3.3	-1.3	13.9	44.4	48.5
Richmond, Va.	137.7	138.5	-0.6	2.2	-2.7	13.9	47.0	49.3
Rochester, N. Y.	134.7	134.9	-0.1	1.7	-3.5	10.1	34.8	45.9
St. Louis, Mo.	141.4	141.4	0	2.5	-2.3	14.2	42.5	50.7
St. Paul, Minn.	131.4	131.5	-0.1	2.4	-2.5	10.7	33.3	39.3
Salt Lake City, Utah	144.5	143.4	0.8	2.3	-0.1	16.3	48.2	52.7
San Francisco, Calif.	147.9	147.3	0.4	1.9	-0.1	17.8	48.5	57.7
Savannah, Ga.	155.4	157.2	-1.1	3.0	1.0	19.3	54.6	60.7
Scranton, Pa.	138.7	139.3	-0.4	0.4	-6.5	14.6	42.3	50.6
Seattle, Wash.	142.7	144.2	-1.0	-0.4	-5.1	9.9	41.3	51.0
Springfield, Ill.	145.0	144.7	0.2	2.8	-2.4	13.3	50.7	54.1
Washington, D. C.	140.2	141.5	-0.9	4.1	-1.6	16.2	43.5	49.0
Wichita, Kans. 3/	143.3	143.7	-0.3	1.0	-1.6	15.0	52.6	--
Winston-Salem, N. C. 3/	142.6	142.0	0.4	3.6	1.9	19.5	52.2	--

* See general explanations of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

3/ June 1940 equals 100.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO OCT. 16, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Oct. 16 1945	Percent change to Oct. 16, 1945 from					
		Sept. 18 1945	Oct. 17 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMFR *	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
(Cents)							
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat 10 lb.	64.1	- 0.2	0.0	5.4	24.2	54.8	79.1
Macaroni 1b.	15.7	0	0	2.6	10.6	13.8	12.1
Wheat cereal 2/ 28 oz.	23.4	- 0.4	0.9	- 1.3	- 2.9	- 0.4	- 3.3
Corn flakes 8 oz.	6.7	0	3.1	- 1.5	- 6.9	- 5.6	- 4.3
Corn meal 1b.	6.5	0	1.6	16.1	38.3	54.8	62.5
Rice 2/ "	12.7	- 0.8	- 0.8	0	3.3	60.8	69.3
Rolled oats "	10.4	0	3.0	19.5	20.9	46.5	46.5
Flour, pancake 2/ 20 oz.	12.4	0	1.6	17.0	3/	3/	3/
Bakery products:							
Bread, white 1b.	8.8	0	0	- 1.1	1.1	12.8	12.8
Bread, whole wheat "	9.6	0	0	- 2.0	1.1	10.3	9.1
Bread, rye "	9.9	0	0	0	2.1	10.0	7.6
Vanilla cookies "	29.1	1.4	3.2	0	5.1	15.9	3/
Soda crackers "	18.9	0	0	6.2	15.2	26.0	27.7
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak 1b.	40.9	- 0.2	0.5	- 12.6	- 7.5	6.0	12.4
Rib roast "	33.1	0	0.3	- 12.2	- 2.6	5.1	14.5
Chuck roast "	28.4	0.4	0	- 10.7	- 1.7	12.7	26.2
Stew meat 2/ "	29.9	0.3	- 2.3	- 14.6	3/	3/	3/
Liver "	37.2	0.3	- 0.3	- 0.8	3/	3/	3/
Hamburger "	27.3	- 0.4	- 0.7	- 15.2	3/	3/	3/
Veal:							
Cutlets "	44.5	0.2	- 0.2	- 13.3	- 17.0	- 1.5	4.7
Roast, boned and rolled 2/ "	35.1	1.2	- 2.2	- 6.9	3/	3/	3/
Pork:							
Chops. "	37.2	0	0	- 11.2	- 13.9	27.8	20.4
Bacon, sliced "	41.2	0	0.7	- 9.8	4.8	36.9	35.5
Ham, sliced "	49.4	0	- 1.2	- 16.7	- 16.0	9.5	6.5
Ham, whole "	34.7	0.9	- 1.4	- 12.8	- 8.2	32.4	26.6
Salt pork "	22.0	0	- 1.3	- 10.9	- 8.3	31.7	42.9
Liver 2/ "	22.1	- 0.5	0.5	- 6.4	3/	3/	3/
Sausage 2/ "	38.7	0	0.5	1.0	3/	3/	3/
Bologna, big 2/ "	34.0	0	- 0.6	0.6	3/	3/	3/
Lamb:							
Leg "	40.4	- 0.2	1.3	- 3.3	19.5	45.3	46.4
Rib chops "	45.9	0.2	1.5	- 5.6	11.1	31.1	25.1

For footnotes, see page

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO OCT. 16, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Oct. 16 1945	Percent change to Oct. 16, 1945 from					
		Sept. 18 1945	Oct. 17 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
(Cents)							
MEATS: (Continued)							
Poultry:							
Roasting chickens 4/ lb.	46.1	- 2.3	1.6	3.2	34.3	56.7	61.0
Fish:							
Fish (fresh, frozen) 4/ lb.	5/	0.7	8.6	11.6	56.5	93.2	128.0
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.0	- 1.3	0	- 4.2	5.5	46.5	79.7
Salmon, red 2/ "	40.2	0.8	- 1.7	- 2.9	0.5	52.3	74.0
DAIRY PRODUCTS:							
Butter lb.	49.9	- 0.2	0	-10.3	9.2	31.3	62.5
Cheese "	35.7	0.3	- 1.1	- 7.0	5.0	32.2	44.5
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	13.6	0	0	0	4.7	20.0	30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	0	0.7	7.4	21.8	31.8
Milk, evaporated 14 1/2 oz. can	10.0	0	0	- 1.0	14.9	40.8	49.3
EGGS:							
Eggs, fresh 4/ doz.	65.7	- 0.9	3.6	30.5	60.7	90.5	104.5
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:							
Fresh fruits and vegetables:							
Fresh fruits:							
Apples lb.	13.6	2.3	38.8	5.4	81.3	161.5	209.1
Bananas "	10.4	- 1.0	- 6.3	-11.1	-13.3	57.6	70.5
Oranges doz.	51.2	- 0.8	3.2	21.3	63.1	87.5	62.5
Grapefruit 2/ ca.	10.0	-11.5	8.7	28.2	58.7	3/	3/
Fresh vegetables:							
Beans, green lb.	17.0	7.6	15.6	- 2.3	26.9	21.4	136.1
Cabbage "	4.8	- 5.9	2.1	-58.3	6.7	41.2	23.1
Carrots bunch	9.0	1.1	1.1	9.8	36.4	50.0	95.7
Lettuce head	12.2	0.8	0	-26.1	32.6	45.2	45.2
Onions lb.	6.6	- 2.7	37.5	-23.3	- 2.9	83.3	83.3
Potatoes 15 lb.	62.0	0.2	- 7.6	-33.0	17.0	112.3	80.2
Spinach lb.	11.1	12.1	- 2.6	- 4.3	50.0	52.1	42.3
Sweetpotatoes "	7.7	-10.5	3.5	-57.0	42.6	54.0	40.0
Beets 2/ bunch	8.2	1.2	7.9	-29.3	3/	3/	3/
Canned fruits and vegetables:							
Canned fruits:							
Peaches #2 1/2 can	27.5	0.7	- 1.1	3.8	18.0	66.7	60.8
Pineapple "	26.3	0	- 4.4	- 8.4	- 3.0	25.8	25.2
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.5	0	0.7	3.6	48.0	3/	3/

For footnotes, see page

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO OCT. 16, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Oct. 16 1945	Percent change to Oct. 16, 1945 from					
		Sept. 18 1945	Oct. 17 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	CMPR *	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
(Conts)							
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green #2 can	13.1	0.0	0.0	-12.7	- 6.4	31.0	31.0
Corn "	14.8	0	1.4	5.7	13.8	38.3	42.3
Peas "	13.3	0.8	0	-14.2	-15.8	0.3	- 2.2
Tomatoes "	12.2	0.8	1.7	- 4.7	0.8	45.2	41.9
Soup, vegetable 2/ 11 oz. can	13.0	- 1.5	- 3.0	- 0.8	3/	3/	3/
Dried fruits and vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes lb.	17.3	- 1.1	1.8	5.5	40.7	80.2	96.6
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans lb.	11.5	0	5.5	15.0	27.8	76.9	98.3
Soup, dehydrated chicken noodle 2/ oz.	3.8	0	2.7	2.7	3/	3/	3/
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee lb.	30.6	0	1.0	2.0	5.9	47.8	37.2
Tea 1/4 lb.	24.3	0.4	1.7	13.0	8.5	33.1	41.3
Cocoa 2/ 1/2 lb.	10.4	0	0	13.0	2.0	14.3	20.9
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard lb.	18.8	0	0.5	- 1.6	5.0	102.2	69.9
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons lb.	20.0	0	- 1.0	- 1.0	1.0	77.0	70.9
In other containers "	24.5	0	- 1.2	0.8	- 5.0	33.9	21.3
Salad dressing pint	24.5	2.1	- 4.7	- 2.8	- 3.5	21.9	3/
Olcomargarine lb.	24.3	0	0.3	3.4	8.5	55.8	47.3
Peanut butter "	28.6	0	0.7	-12.0	6.3	59.8	57.8
Oil, cooking or salad 2/ pint	30.0	0	- 2.3	- 1.6	3/	3/	3/
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar lb.	6.6	- 1.5	- 1.5	- 2.9	- 4.3	29.4	26.9
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.8	0	0	1.3	6.3	16.2	15.3
Molasses 2/ 18 oz.	15.8	0	0.6	1.3	9.0	17.9	16.2
Apple butter 2/ 16 oz.	14.3	0.7	4.4	10.9	3/	3/	3/

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

2/ Not included in the index.

3/ Not priced in earlier period.

4/ Percent change computed on the index.

5/ Composite price not computed.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Nov. 1945	Oct. 1945	Nov. 1944	May 1942	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line"	GMFR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	129.2	128.9	126.6	125.1	116.0	100.8	98.6
Food	140.1	139.3	136.5	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing	148.4	148.3	142.1	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent	--	--	--	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	110.5	110.6	109.9	107.6	104.9	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	94.6	95.0	95.8	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	125.8	125.7	123.6	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	147.1	146.6	141.7	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	124.4	124.3	122.9	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to November 1945

ALL ITEMS	--	0.2	2.1	3.3	11.4	28.2	31.0
Food	--	0.6	2.6	-2.0	15.2	43.5	49.8
Clothing	--	0.1	4.4	16.0	17.6	46.6	48.0
Rent ^{1/}	--	--	--	0.3	-1.5	3.1	3.8
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	-0.1	0.5	2.7	5.3	9.6	13.3
Gas & electricity	--	-0.4	-1.3	-1.6	-2.1	-3.0	-4.4
Other fuels & ice	--	0.1	1.8	6.0	11.4	21.0	30.6
Housefurnishings	--	0.3	3.8	17.6	20.4	46.8	46.2
Miscellaneous	--	-0.1	1.2	7.9	12.2	22.2	23.9

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

^{1/} Percent change to September 1945.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES
PERCENT CHANGES TO NOVEMBER 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Oct. 1945	Nov. 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	0.2	2.1	3.3	11.4	23.2	31.0
Baltimore, Md.	-0.2	1.9	2.7	11.4	29.6	33.4
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.2	1.8	5.6	12.0	30.5	34.9
Boston, Mass.	0.1	1.3	1.9	9.9	25.7	28.3
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.5	2.1	0.4	7.3	26.9	31.3
Chicago, Ill.	-0.2	1.1	2.2	9.5	25.3	29.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/
Cleveland, Ohio	0.1	1.1	3.0	10.9	29.2	31.8
Denver, Colo.	0	1.1	1.8	9.6	26.7	28.5
Detroit, Mich.	0.3	3.1	3.0	10.4	29.3	33.1
Houston, Tex.	-0.1	2.6	2.3	9.5	24.7	26.3
Kansas City, Mo.	0.2	2.5	3.9	11.6	29.4	29.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.5	3.0	5.5	12.4	29.5	32.0
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.3	2.1	3.0	8.3	23.3	25.9
New York, N. Y.	0.7	2.3	4.5	14.9	26.9	31.5
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.2	2.5	2.6	11.7	29.1	31.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.1	2.5	4.2	12.3	29.6	32.2
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.2	1.4	2.2	9.6	25.4	29.2
San Francisco, Calif.	1.1	2.1	4.9	14.3	32.0	36.3
Savannah, Ga.	0.2	2.5	4.5	14.0	35.9	38.3
Seattle, Wash.	0.7	1.9	2.5	9.6	30.1	32.4
Washington, D. C.	0.4	3.0	4.5	12.7	29.4	31.1

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.
1/ Data not available.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, NOVEMBER, 1945

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-Furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
AVERAGE	129.2	140.1	148.4	110.5	147.1	124.4
Atlanta, Ga.	--	141.0	--	115.3	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	131.7	147.5	153.0	111.3	147.0	123.0
Birmingham, Ala.	132.9	143.3	145.1	107.6	140.4	127.3
Boston, Mass.	124.6	133.8	146.0	115.8	140.3	119.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	129.3	135.7	149.3	103.1	147.0	125.4
Chicago, Ill.	127.3	137.3	141.9	106.6	132.9	121.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	1/	137.7	1/	107.7	1/	1/
Cleveland, Ohio	131.8	143.3	147.0	113.3	147.6	123.5
Denver, Colo.	126.7	137.9	135.7	97.3	131.2	124.5
Detroit, Mich.	131.1	137.5	145.6	114.3	156.4	131.2
Houston, Tex.	127.2	139.5	140.7	91.1	145.3	125.5
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	136.3	--	113.7	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	149.5	--	117.5	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	127.3	133.6	147.4	112.5	141.4	126.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	132.7	149.2	146.0	92.5	143.5	127.2
Manchester, N. H.	--	136.1	--	122.4	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	143.8	--	106.6	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	137.3	--	111.5	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	125.5	133.7	143.6	104.2	144.4	123.3
Mobile, Ala.	--	143.4	--	103.5	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	153.2	--	102.9	--	--
New York, N. Y.	130.2	141.7	156.1	113.5	139.4	126.7
Norfolk, Va.	--	144.3	--	120.5	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	128.1	137.9	149.0	113.4	146.6	120.4
Pittsburgh, Pa.	130.1	139.7	170.5	112.1	143.8	119.6
Portland, Maine	--	133.9	--	113.4	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	151.4	--	120.5	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	137.3	--	109.9	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	126.7	141.4	143.7	103.3	129.0	120.0
San Francisco, Calif.	134.4	151.5	144.7	92.9	131.2	133.1
Savannah, Ga.	137.8	155.6	147.1	113.2	150.5	129.8
Scranton, Pa.	--	139.5	--	117.7	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	132.5	145.3	147.2	104.3	144.9	132.2
Washington, D. C.	129.3	146.1	152.3	111.1	144.3	128.7

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.
1/ Data not available.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM OCTOBER, 1945 TO NOVEMBER, 1945

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
AVERAGE	0.2	0.6	0.1	-0.1	0.3	-0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	--	0.4	--	-0.1	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	-0.2	0	-1.6	0	0.1	0
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.2	-0.3	0	0	0.1	-0.1
Boston, Mass.	0.1	0.4	-0.5	0	-0.2	0
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.5	0.8	1.6	0.7	-0.2	0
Chicago, Ill.	-0.2	0	0	0.1	0.1	-0.9
Cincinnati, Ohio	1/	-0.9	1/	0	1/	1/
Cleveland, Ohio	0.1	0.3	-0.5	0	0.4	0
Denver, Colo.	0	-0.1	-0.1	0	0.2	0
Detroit, Mich.	0.3	0.3	0.1	-0.1	0	0.1
Houston, Tex.	-0.1	-0.1	-0.4	0	0	0.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	0.2	--	0.1	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	0.3	--	0	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0.2	0.7	-0.2	0	0.5	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.5	1.4	-0.3	0	-0.1	0
Manchester, N. H.	--	1.1	--	-0.1	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	0.1	--	0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	0.3	--	0	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.3	0.5	0	0.1	0.3	0
Mobile, Ala.	--	0.2	--	-0.1	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	-0.8	--	0.1	--	--
New York, N. Y.	0.7	1.6	0.4	-1.3	-1.5	0
Norfolk, Va.	--	0	--	0	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.2	0.5	0	0	0.3	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.1	-0.2	0.6	0	0.6	0.2
Portland, Maine	--	0.7	--	-0.1	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	1.1	--	0	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	0.1	--	0	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.2	0	-0.5	0	0.9	0
San Francisco, Calif.	1.1	2.4	0.8	0	-0.2	0
Savannah, Ga.	0.2	0.1	0.9	0	0.3	0
Scranton, Pa.	--	0.6	--	0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	0.7	1.8	-0.2	0.1	0.3	-0.1
Washington, D. C.	-0.4	0.4	1.1	0	0.3	0

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.
1/ Data not available.

TABLE 5 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITY'S COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

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November 1945

Group	Nov. 13 1945	Oct. 16 1945	Nov. 14 1944	May 13 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line"*	GMPI	"Little Steel" * 2/	Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935 = 100.0							
ALL FOODS	140.1	139.3	135.5	143.0	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	109.1	109.1	103.6	107.6	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	131.0	131.0	129.7	131.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	112.2	112.2	110.2	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.5	112.6	112.2	125.5	123.2	98.7	98.0
Lamb	136.2	136.2	134.5	141.6	114.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	152.5	149.3	150.4	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	220.3	221.3	210.3	200.5	150.9	110.7	99.6
Dairy products	135.9	133.3	133.6	136.9	123.3	101.1	93.1
Eggs	192.1	185.5	186.7	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	172.3	172.5	160.7	190.8	125.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	151.4	152.3	167.6	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.5	130.4	129.6	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	160.5	165.9	163.5	158.0	131.2	95.6	90.3
Beverages	124.9	124.7	124.2	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	124.4	124.0	123.2	125.3	122.4	90.3	94.5
Sugar & sweets	126.5	126.5	126.5	127.5	127.1	95.3	95.6

Percent Change to Nov. 13, 1945

ALL FOODS	--	0.6	2.6	- 2.0	15.2	42.3	49.8
Cereals & bakery products	--	0	0.5	1.4	3.7	15.0	16.8
Meats	--	0	1.0	- 5.3	5.4	23.6	36.9
Beef & veal	--	0	0	- 9.9	- 4.5	5.0	18.7
Pork	--	0	0.4	-10.3	- 8.6	30.8	28.0
Lamb	--	0	1.3	- 3.3	15.2	38.0	37.9
Chickens	--	0.1	1.4	3.3	34.5	55.9	61.2
Fish, fresh & canned	--	-0.2	5.0	10.1	46.3	75.0	121.7
Dairy products	--	2.0	1.7	- 0.7	10.2	39.2	46.0
Eggs	--	3.6	2.9	35.2	66.5	97.2	111.8
Fruits & vegetables	--	-0.1	7.2	- 9.7	33.9	84.7	86.5
Fresh	--	-0.2	8.5	-11.6	39.9	94.8	96.0
Canned	--	0.2	0.3	- 0.4	6.4	42.9	42.6
Dried	--	-0.2	1.2	6.6	26.4	69.2	86.6
Beverages	--	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.2	37.4	31.6
Fats & oils	--	0.3	1.0	- 1.5	1.6	54.9	47.2
Sugar & sweets	--	0	0	- 0.9	- 0.5	32.7	32.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

November 1945

TABLE 6 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*

PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS

OCTOBER 16, 1945 TO NOVEMBER 13, 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Products	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Beverages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
AVERAGE	0.6	0.0	0.0	2.0	3.6	-0.1	0.2	0.3	0.0
Atlanta, Ga.	0.4	0	-0.4	1.3	3.5	-0.6	0.1	0	0
Baltimore, Md.	0	0	-1.0	2.5	3.3	-1.2	-0.1	0.1	0.1
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.3	-0.3	-1.1	0.8	6.7	-4.5	0.1	-0.1	0
Boston, Mass.	0.4	0	-0.1	1.1	3.5	-0.6	0.1	0.3	0
Bridgeport, Conn.	-0.1	0	-0.9	1.9	3.6	-2.5	0.2	0.2	-0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.8	-0.1	-0.1	1.9	3.6	1.3	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2
Butte, Mont.	0.9	0.1	-1.0	2.1	1.5	2.5	0.2	-0.1	0.2
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	0.4	0	-1.0	2.7	12.9	-2.9	0	0.2	0.1
Charleston, S. C.	-0.7	0	-0.7	2.3	2.4	-4.7	0	-0.2	0.8
Chicago, Ill.	0	0.2	-0.7	1.9	4.0	-1.9	1.7	0.9	0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.9	0	0	1.3	3.7	-4.7	0	0.2	-0.4
Cleveland, Ohio	0.3	0	-0.4	2.0	2.2	-0.3	0	1.0	-0.1
Columbus, Ohio	0.3	0.2	-0.8	1.7	3.1	-0.7	-0.2	0.5	-0.1
Dallas, Texas	-0.1	-0.1	-1.4	1.6	4.2	-1.5	-0.2	0.3	0
Danver, Colo.	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	2.0	4.1	-2.2	0	0.1	0
Detroit, Mich.	0.8	0	-0.1	2.5	2.3	0.7	0	0.1	-0.7
Fall River, Mass.	1.1	-0.1	0.7	1.4	3.1	1.7	0	0.2	0.1
Houston, Texas	-0.1	0.3	-0.7	1.2	1.9	-2.1	0	0.6	0.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	0.2	0.1	-0.1	1.6	4.9	-2.3	-0.1	0.4	-0.1
Jackson, Miss.	0.1	0.1	0	1.9	2.9	-2.1	-0.1	0.1	0
Jacksonville, Fla.	0.3	0	0	2.1	2.2	-0.6	0.4	0.1	0.1
Kansas City, Mo.	0.7	0	0	1.9	8.2	-1.7	0	0.7	0.2
Knoxville, Tenn.	-0.7	-0.1	0.1	2.0	4.3	-6.2	0	1.2	0
Little Rock, Ark.	0.4	0	-0.1	1.8	4.7	-1.3	-0.3	0.1	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.4	0.1	-0.2	2.5	3.3	1.8	0.2	1.0	0.2
Louisville, Ky.	0.5	0	-0.1	1.9	3.4	-0.4	0	-0.1	0
Manchester, N. H.	1.1	-0.1	0.1	2.0	4.6	1.5	0.2	0.4	0
Memphis, Tenn.	0.1	0.3	-0.1	2.3	2.1	-1.8	0	-0.1	0
Milwaukee, Wis.	0.3	0	-0.3	2.8	2.8	-1.1	-0.1	0.6	0
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.8	0.1	-0.1	3.1	3.3	-0.9	-0.3	0.3	0
Mobile, Ala.	0.2	0.2	-0.5	1.6	4.5	-0.3	0	0.6	0.2
Newark, N. J.	1.8	0.4	-1.0	1.9	3.0	3.6	-0.1	0.2	-0.4
New Haven, Conn.	-0.1	0	-0.7	1.7	3.0	-2.4	-0.2	0	0
New Orleans, La.	-0.8	0.1	0.6	2.0	4.1	-6.2	0.1	0.1	0
New York, N. Y.	1.6	-0.1	1.6	1.6	3.1	2.3	0	0.1	-0.1

TABLE 6 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
 PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
 OCTOBER 16, 1945 TO NOVEMBER 13, 1945

Page 9
 November 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Prod- ucts	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Ber- er- ages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
Norfolk, Va.	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.7	2.3	-2.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.7
Omaha, Neb.	1.3	0	-0.2	2.3	11.3	0.6	0.5	0.6	0
Peoria, Ill.	-0.1	0	-0.2	1.3	5.5	-1.5	0	0	0
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.5	0	-0.6	2.1	2.9	0.2	-0.1	0	0.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	2.9	3.7	-4.1	0	0.4	0.1
Portland, Maine	0.7	0	0.5	2.4	2.7	-1.1	0	-0.2	0
Portland, Oreg.	1.1	0.1	-0.8	2.4	3.6	2.2	0	-0.2	0.1
Providence, R. I.	-0.1	0.1	0.2	1.1	3.5	-2.6	0.1	0.8	0.2
Richmond, Va.	0.1	0.1	-0.6	1.9	3.1	-1.8	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2
Rochester, N. Y.	0.3	0	-0.2	2.5	3.4	-3.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.4
St. Louis, Mo.	0	-0.3	0	2.1	7.6	-3.1	0.3	0.2	0
St. Paul, Minn.	1.1	0	0	3.0	2.9	0.1	-0.4	1.4	0
Salt Lake City, Utah	0.8	0.1	-0.1	2.8	2.4	-0.7	0	0.3	0
San Francisco, Calif.	2.4	0	0.6	2.4	3.2	5.5	0	0.1	-0.2
Savannah, Ga.	0.1	0	-0.5	0.8	1.0	0.7	-0.1	0	0
Scranton, Pa.	0.6	0.3	0.1	3.5	3.2	-2.0	-0.1	0	0
Seattle, Wash.	1.8	0	0.1	1.5	2.9	5.4	0	1.4	-0.1
Springfield, Ill.	0.3	-0.1	0	1.8	3.6	-1.4	-0.1	0	0
Washington, D. C.	0.4	0	-0.3	2.4	2.4	-0.2	0	0.2	0.2
Wichita, Kans.	1.6	0	0	1.9	9.9	0.8	0	0.6	-0.1
Winston-Salem, N. C.	-0.4	-0.1	-0.5	1.5	3.9	-3.8	0	0.3	0.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO NOVEMBER 13, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent change to November 13, 1945 from					
	Nov. 13 1945	Oct. 16 1945	Oct. 16 1945	Nov. 14 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" .*	CMR *	"Little Steel" 2/ *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	140.1	139.3	0.6	2.6	-2.0	15.2	43.3	49.8
Atlanta, Ga.	141.0	140.5	0.4	2.2	-1.3	17.1	49.5	52.4
Baltimore, Md.	147.5	147.5	0	2.2	-3.3	17.2	50.7	55.8
Birmingham, Ala.	143.8	144.2	-0.3	1.8	2.2	19.3	49.8	58.5
Boston Mass.	133.8	133.3	0.4	1.5	-3.1	13.1	40.5	43.1
Bridgeport, Conn.	136.3	136.4	-0.1	1.3	-5.8	12.4	41.2	46.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	136.7	135.6	0.8	2.5	-7.5	9.2	36.4	44.7
Butte, Mont.	137.9	136.7	0.9	3.3	-0.3	13.5	39.7	46.5
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 3/	142.8	142.2	0.4	2.3	-1.0	15.3	48.9	--
Charleston, S. C.	138.4	139.4	-0.7	2.7	-1.4	12.3	44.3	45.5
Chicago, Ill.	137.8	137.8	0	1.5	-2.3	13.2	40.3	49.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	137.7	139.0	-0.9	2.5	-0.4	12.5	42.7	52.3
Cleveland, Ohio	143.8	143.3	0.3	0.8	-1.7	15.9	45.0	53.6
Columbus, Ohio	133.0	132.6	0.3	3.1	-2.4	12.1	42.4	51.0
Dallas, Tex.	137.0	137.1	-0.1	3.2	-0.9	17.3	47.9	49.4
Denver, Colo.	137.9	138.0	-0.1	1.1	-4.1	12.2	45.5	48.8
Detroit, Mich.	137.5	136.4	0.8	3.9	-4.1	12.3	41.8	51.8
Fall River, Mass.	134.3	132.8	1.1	2.1	-4.4	11.2	37.7	40.8
Houston, Tex.	139.5	139.7	-0.1	3.6	-2.9	10.8	35.0	42.6
Indianapolis, Ind.	136.3	136.0	0.2	2.4	-2.8	9.0	38.8	50.3
Jackson, Miss. 3/	150.1	150.0	0.1	-0.1	-1.9	17.0	42.5	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	149.5	149.0	0.3	2.5	-1.3	17.3	51.3	56.1
Kansas City, Mo.	133.8	132.9	0.7	2.7	-3.0	12.6	44.8	46.2
Knoxville, Tenn. 3/	160.0	161.1	-0.7	2.0	2.2	22.1	64.8	--
Little Rock, Ark.	138.8	138.3	0.4	1.8	-2.1	12.7	45.2	47.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	149.2	147.2	1.4	4.1	2.1	16.5	46.6	57.7
Louisville, Ky.	134.2	133.5	0.5	2.4	-5.2	9.5	40.5	45.7
Manchester, N. H.	136.1	134.6	1.1	1.9	-4.4	9.8	40.9	43.4
Memphis, Tenn.	148.8	148.6	0.1	2.7	-0.9	20.5	58.0	65.9
Milwaukee, Wis.	137.8	137.4	0.3	1.9	-2.9	15.0	43.7	51.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	133.7	132.6	0.8	2.8	-0.9	10.6	35.1	40.7
Mobile, Ala.	143.4	148.1	0.2	2.3	-1.0	17.0	51.6	55.4
Newark, N. J.	143.6	141.0	1.8	3.2	0.8	18.8	45.3	50.2
New Haven, Conn.	135.3	135.5	-0.1	0.1	-7.1	12.2	41.4	44.4
New Orleans, La.	153.2	154.4	-0.8	2.3	0.5	18.8	50.3	57.0
New York, N. Y.	141.7	139.5	1.6	3.1	-1.1	20.1	42.4	47.9

TABLE 7 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO NOVEMBER 13, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent change to November 13, 1945 from					
	Nov. 13 1945	Oct. 16 1945	Oct. 16 1945	Nov. 14 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPIR *	"Little Steel" 2/ *	Month Before War in Europe
Norfolk, Va.	144.3	144.3	0.0	1.6	-5.9	14.4	50.6	54.2
Omaha, Nebr.	132.8	131.1	1.3	1.9	-3.7	10.8	35.6	43.9
Peoria, Ill.	145.4	145.5	-0.1	3.7	-2.2	12.7	46.9	55.7
Philadelphia, Pa.	137.9	137.2	0.5	3.5	-2.6	15.5	45.2	48.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	139.7	140.0	-0.2	3.7	-1.9	15.1	42.6	51.0
Portland, Maine	133.9	133.0	0.7	0.5	-4.6	10.0	40.5	39.6
Portland, Oreg.	151.4	149.7	1.1	3.1	-1.4	12.6	48.9	57.5
Providence, R. I.	139.0	139.1	-0.1	2.5	-1.4	13.3	44.3	48.3
Richmond, Va.	137.8	137.7	0.1	1.5	-2.6	14.0	47.1	49.5
Rochester, N. Y.	135.1	134.7	0.3	2.0	-3.2	10.5	35.2	46.4
St. Louis, Mo.	141.4	141.4	0	2.1	-2.3	14.2	42.5	50.7
St. Paul, Minn.	132.8	131.4	1.1	3.5	-1.5	11.9	34.7	40.8
Salt Lake City, Utah	145.6	144.5	0.8	3.2	0.6	17.2	49.3	53.9
San Francisco, Calif.	151.5	147.9	2.4	3.6	2.4	20.7	52.1	61.5
Savannah, Ga.	155.6	155.4	0.1	3.3	1.2	19.4	54.8	60.9
Scranton, Pa.	139.5	138.7	0.6	2.3	-5.9	15.3	43.1	51.5
Seattle, Wash.	145.3	142.7	1.8	1.8	-3.3	11.9	43.9	53.6
Springfield, Ill.	145.5	145.0	0.3	2.5	-2.0	13.7	51.2	54.6
Washington, D. C.	140.8	140.2	0.4	3.0	-1.2	16.7	44.1	49.6
Wichita, Kans. 3/	150.6	148.3	1.6	2.3	-0.1	16.7	54.9	--
Winston-Salem, N. C. 3/	142.1	142.6	-0.4	3.0	1.5	19.1	51.7	--

* See general explanations of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

3/ June 1940 equals 100.

November 1945

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
 AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO NOVEMBER 13, 1945
 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Nov. 13 1945	Percent change to Nov. 13, 1945 from					
		Oct. 16 1945	Nov. 14 1944	May 13 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GNPR *	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
(Cents)							
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat	10 lb.	64.1	- 0.2	- 0.2	5.4	24.2	54.3
Macaroni	lb.	15.7	0	- 0.6	2.6	10.6	13.8
Wheat cereal, 2/	23 oz.	23.3	- 0.4	0.4	- 1.7	- 3.3	- 0.7
Corn flakes	6 oz.	6.7	0	3.1	- 1.5	- 6.9	- 5.6
Corn meal	lb.	6.5	0	1.3	16.1	36.3	54.3
Rice 2/	"	12.9	1.6	1.6	4.9	63.3	72.0
Rolled oats	"	10.4	0	2.0	19.5	20.9	45.5
Flour, pancake 2/	20 oz.	12.8	3.2	4.1	20.8	3/	3/
Bakery products:							
Bread, white	lb.	8.8	0	0	- 1.1	1.1	12.8
Bread, whole wheat	"	9.6	0	0	- 2.0	1.1	10.3
Bread, rye	"	9.9	0	0	2.1	10.0	7.6
Vanilla cookies	"	28.5	1.4	4.6	1.4	6.5	17.5
Soda crackers	"	18.0	- 0.5	- 0.5	5.6	14.6	25.3
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak	lb.	40.9	0	0.7	- 12.6	- 7.5	6.0
Rib roast	"	33.1	0	0.3	- 12.2	- 2.6	5.1
Chuck roast	"	25.3	- 0.4	0	- 11.0	- 2.1	12.3
Stew meat 2/	"	29.6	- 1.0	3.3	- 15.4	3/	3/
Liver	"	37.3	0.3	0	- 0.5	3/	3/
Hamburger	"	27.4	0.4	- 0.4	- 14.9	3/	3/
Veal:							
Cutlets	"	44.7	0.4	0.2	- 12.9	- 16.6	- 1.1
Roast, boned and rolled 2/	"	35.3	0.6	- 1.9	- 6.4	3/	3/
Pork:							
Chops	"	37.2	0	- 0.3	- 11.2	- 13.9	27.3
Bacon, sliced	"	41.2	0	1.0	- 9.8	4.8	36.9
Ham, sliced	"	49.6	0.4	- 1.0	- 16.4	- 15.6	10.0
Ham, whole	"	34.9	0.6	- 0.9	- 12.3	- 7.7	53.2
Salt pork	"	22.0	0	- 0.5	- 10.9	- 8.3	31.7
Liver 2/	"	22.1	0	0.5	- 6.4	3/	3/
Sausage 2/	"	38.8	0.3	1.0	1.3	3/	3/
Bologna, big 2/	"	34.1	0.3	0.3	0.9	3/	3/
Lamb:							
Leg	"	40.4	0	1.3	- 3.3	19.5	45.3
Rib chops	"	45.9	0	1.3	- 5.6	11.1	31.1

For footnotes, see page 14.

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO NOVEMBER 13, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Nov. 13 1945	Percent change to Nov. 13, 1945 from					
		Oct. 16 1945	Nov. 14 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
(Cents)							
MEATS: (Continued)							
Poultry:							
Roasting chickens 4/ lb.	47.0	0.1	1.4	3.3	34.5	56.9	61.2
Fish:							
Fish (fresh, frozen) 4/ lb.	5/	- 0.2	5.7	11.4	56.1	92.3	127.5
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.0	0	0.4	- 4.2	5.5	45.5	79.7
Salmon, red 2/ "	40.4	0.5	- 2.7	- 2.4	1.0	53.0	74.9
DAIRY PRODUCTS:							
Butter lb.	54.4	9.0	9.2	- 2.2	19.0	43.2	77.2
Cheese "	35.7	0	- 1.4	- 7.0	5.0	32.2	44.5
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	0	0	4.7	20.0	30.0
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	0	0.7	7.4	21.8	31.8
Milk, evaporated 14 1/2 oz. can	10.0	0	0	- 1.0	14.9	40.0	49.3
EGGS:							
Eggs, fresh 4/ doz.	67.9	3.6	2.9	35.2	66.5	97.2	111.3
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:							
Fresh fruits and vegetables:							
Fresh fruits:							
Apples lb.	14.1	3.7	35.9	9.3	88.0	171.2	220.5
Bananas "	10.5	1.0	- 6.2	-10.3	-12.5	59.1	72.1
Oranges doz.	47.0	- 8.2	2.2	11.4	49.7	72.2	49.2
Grapefruit 2/ ea.	8.5	-15.0	- 1.2	9.0	34.9	3/	3/
Fresh vegetables:							
Beans, green lb.	20.1	13.2	- 0.5	15.5	50.0	43.6	179.2
Cabbage "	4.4	- 8.3	- 6.4	-61.7	- 2.2	29.4	12.8
Carrots bunch	9.0	0	0	9.3	36.4	50.0	95.7
Lettuce head	12.3	0.8	12.8	-25.5	33.7	46.4	46.4
Onions lb.	7.0	6.1	43.9	-15.6	2.9	94.4	94.4
Potatoes 15 lb.	62.3	0.5	- 6.3	-32.6	17.5	113.4	61.1
Spinach lb.	10.2	- 8.1	- 5.6	-12.1	37.8	39.7	30.8
Sweetpotatoes "	7.7	0	13.2	-57.0	42.6	54.0	40.0
Beets 2/ bunch	8.9	8.5	12.7	-23.3	3/	2/	3/
Canned fruits and vegetables:							
Canned fruits:							
Peaches #2 1/2 can	23.0	1.8	1.1	5.7	20.2	69.7	63.7
Pineapple "	26.5	0.3	- 2.6	- 7.7	- 2.2	26.8	26.2
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.3	- 1.4	- 0.7	2.1	45.9	3/	3/

For footnotes, see page 14.

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO NOVEMBER 13, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Nov. 13 1945 (Cents)	Percent change to Nov. 13, 1945 from					
		Oct. 16 1945	Nov. 14 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green #2 can	13.2	0.8	0.8	-12.0	-5.7	32.0	32.0
Corn "	14.7	-0.7	0	5.0	13.1	37.4	41.3
Peas "	13.3	0	0	-14.2	-15.8	0.8	-2.2
Tomatoes. "	12.4	1.6	4.2	-3.1	2.5	47.6	44.2
Soup, vegetable 2/ 11 oz. can	13.0	0	-3.0	-0.3	3/	3/	3/
Dried fruits and vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes lb.	17.1	-1.2	1.8	4.3	39.0	78.1	94.3
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans lb.	11.4	-0.9	2.7	14.0	26.7	75.4	96.6
Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle 2/ oz.	3.8	0	2.7	2.7	3/	3/	3/
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee lb.	30.7	0.3	1.3	2.3	6.2	48.3	37.7
Tea 1/4 lb.	24.1	-0.8	0.4	12.1	7.6	36.9	40.1
Cocoa 2/ 1/2 lb.	10.3	-1.0	-1.0	12.0	1.0	13.2	19.8
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard lb.	18.7	-0.5	-0.5	-2.1	4.5	101.1	88.9
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons lb.	19.9	-0.5	-1.5	-1.5	0.5	76.1	70.1
In other containers "	21.5	0	-1.6	0.8	-5.0	33.9	21.3
Salad dressing pint	24.7	-0.8	-4.3	-2.0	-2.8	22.9	3/
Oleomargarine lb.	24.1	-0.8	0	2.6	7.6	54.5	46.1
Peanut butter "	29.3	2.4	2.3	-9.8	8.9	63.7	63.7
Oil, cooking or salad 2/ pint	29.9	-0.3	-2.6	-2.0	3/	3/	3/
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar lb.	6.6	0	-1.5	-2.9	-4.3	29.4	26.9
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.7	-0.6	+0.6	0.6	6.1	15.4	14.6
Molasses 2/ 18 oz.	15.8	0	-0.6	1.3	9.0	17.9	16.2
Apple butter 2/ 16 oz.	16.0	11.9	17.6	24.0	3/	3/	3/

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

2/ Not included in the index.

3/ Not priced in earlier period

4/ Percent change computed on the index.

5/ Composite price not computed.

*NOTE: The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index", measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The index only partially shows the wartime effects of changes in quality, availability of consumer goods, etc. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the index for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If small cities were included in the national average, another 1/2 point would be added. If account is also taken of continued deterioration of quality and disappearance of low-priced merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, the over-all adjustment for the period January 1941 to September 1945 would total approximately 5 points. As merchandise of prewar quality and specifications comes back into the markets and the Bureau is able regularly to price it again, this adjustment factor will gradually decrease and finally disappear.

General Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1 (the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board), by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

GMFR - The General Maximum Price Regulation was issued on May 18, 1942. It established retail price ceilings at their highest levels in March 1942.

The President's "hold-the-line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is therefore used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Dec. 1945	Nov. 1945	Dec. 1944	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL ITEMS	129.9	129.3R	127.0	125.1	116.0	100.8	98.6
Food	141.4	140.1	137.4	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing	149.4	148.7R	142.8	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent	108.3	--	108.3	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	110.3	110.1R	109.4	107.6	104.9	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	94.0	94.0R	94.8	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	126.1	125.8	123.6	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	148.3	147.6R	143.0	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	124.3	124.6R	123.1	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4
Percent Change to December 1945							
ALL ITEMS	--	0.5	2.3	3.8	12.0	28.9	31.7
Food	--	0.9	2.9	-1.1	16.3	44.9	51.2
Clothing	--	0.5	4.6	16.8	18.4	47.6	49.0
Rent	--	--	0	0.3	-1.5	3.1	3.8
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	0.2	0.8	2.5	5.1	9.4	13.1
Gas & electricity	--	0	-0.8	-2.2	-2.7	-3.6	-5.1
Other fuels & ice	--	0.2	2.0	6.2	11.7	21.2	30.9
Housefurnishings	--	0.5	3.7	18.5	21.4	48.0	47.4
Miscellaneous	--	0.2	1.4	8.2	12.5	22.6	24.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.
R Revised.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO DECEMBER 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Nov. 1945	Dec. 1944	May 1943 "Hold the Line" *	May 1942 GNPR *	Jan. 1941 "Little Steel" *	Aug. 1939 Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	0.5	2.3	3.8	12.0	28.9	31.7
Atlanta, Ga.	--	2.1	5.2	14.6	21.7	34.1
Baltimore, Md.	0.5	2.6	3.4	12.1	31.6	34.2
Birmingham, Ala.	0.4	1.9	6.1	12.5	31.4	35.5
Boston, Mass.	0.2	1.1	2.1	10.1	26.0	28.6
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.3	2.1	0.8	7.7	27.4	31.8
Chicago, Ill.	0.5	1.3	2.8	9.9	26.5	29.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	<u>1/</u> 0.2	2.3	4.6	11.7	30.0	33.1
Cleveland, Ohio	0.3	2.5	3.4	11.4	29.7	32.3
Denver, Colo.	1.2	1.7	3.1	11.0	21.3	30.1
Detroit, Mich.	0.2	3.0	3.1	10.5	30.0	33.3
Houston, Tex.	0.2	2.1	2.3	9.6	28.5	26.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	1.9	3.7	9.7	27.8	33.1
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	2.2	5.7	15.3	34.8	39.5
Kansas City, Mo.	0.5	2.6	4.5	12.2	30.1	29.8
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.5	3.6	6.3	13.2	30.4	33.0
Manchester, N. H.	--	1.3	2.3	10.6	30.7	33.9
Memphis, Tenn.	--	2.4	4.5	13.9	33.6	36.3
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	2.3	2.7	11.1	21.2	31.1
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.4	2.4	3.5	8.8	23.9	26.5
Mobile, Ala.	--	1.7	2.7	10.4	30.8	33.0
New Orleans, La.	--	1.8	2.7	12.8	31.1	33.7
New York, N. Y.	0.5	2.5	5.6	15.7	29.5	32.4
Norfolk, Va.	--	1.8	1.6	11.9	33.2	37.0
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.3	2.1	3.0	12.1	29.6	31.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.7	2.3	4.8	13.0	29.2	33.0
Portland, Maine	--	0.6	1.7	9.2	26.3	30.2
Portland, Oreg.	--	3.0	4.8	12.8	34.6	37.2
Richmond, Va.	--	1.6	2.6	10.1	26.9	29.0
St. Louis, Mo.	1.3	2.5	3.5	11.1	27.1	30.9
San Francisco, Calif.	1.0	2.3	6.0	15.5	33.4	36.8
Savannah, Ga.	-0.1	2.3	4.4	13.9	35.8	38.7
Scranton, Pa.	--	2.5	2.3	12.9	29.1	33.4
Seattle, Wash.	1.4	2.7	4.0	11.1	31.9	34.3
Washington, D. C.	0.3	3.3	5.0	13.3	30.0	31.7

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Change from October, 1945

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for October and November revised.)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Electric- ity & Ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
AVERAGE							
October	128.9	139.3	148.5	--	110.5	146.9	124.7
November	129.3	140.1	148.7	--	110.1	147.6	124.6
December	129.9	141.4	149.4	108.3	110.3	148.3	124.8
Atlanta, Ga.							
October	--	140.5	--	--	111.1	--	--
November	--	141.0	--	--	111.0	--	--
December	131.4	141.6	144.1	--	112.5	146.1	134.1
Baltimore, Md.							
October	132.1	147.5	156.0	--	111.2	147.3	123.0
November	131.9	147.5	153.9	--	111.2	147.7	123.2
December	132.5	148.1	156.5	--	111.5	148.7	123.2
Birmingham, Ala.							
October	133.1	144.2	145.3	--	107.6	140.2	127.4
November	133.0	143.8	145.4	--	107.6	140.4	127.4
December	133.5	145.2	145.9	122.5	107.6	140.8	127.4
Boston, Mass.							
October	124.5	133.3	146.7	--	116.8	141.2	119.1
November	124.6	133.8	146.0	--	116.8	142.6	119.1
December	124.9	134.5	145.1	--	117.0	144.8	119.2
Buffalo, N. Y.							
October	128.6	135.6	147.3	--	107.4	147.4	126.4
November	129.4	136.7	149.9	--	108.1	147.3	126.4
December	129.8	137.6	149.8	115.2	108.4	147.8	126.4
Chicago, Ill.							
October	127.6	137.8	142.0	--	106.5	138.9	122.5
November	127.4	137.8	142.2	--	106.6	139.3	121.4
December	128.0	139.3	142.3	115.0	106.7	139.7	121.4
Cincinnati, Ohio							
October	129.3	139.0	149.3	--	107.7	144.2	126.4
November	1/	137.7	1/	--	107.7	1/	1/
December	129.5	138.7	150.7	--	107.7	146.3	126.5
Cleveland, Ohio							
October	131.7	143.3	148.0	--	113.8	147.1	123.5
November	131.9	143.8	147.4	--	113.8	147.7	123.8
December	132.3	144.8	147.4	--	113.9	147.1	123.8

For footnotes, see page 8.

TABLE 3 (Continued) - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for October and November revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
Denver, Colo.							
October	126.8	138.0	136.9	--	97.3	161.7	124.5
November	126.8	137.9	136.9	--	97.3	163.2	124.5
December	128.3	141.7	137.1	109.9	97.3	164.7	124.7
Detroit, Mich.							
October	130.7	136.4	148.6	--	114.7	156.6	131.2
November	131.0	137.5	148.8	--	111.5	156.8	131.6
December	131.3	138.3	149.3	115.1	111.6	158.0	131.4
Houston, Tex.							
October	127.2	139.7	141.3	--	88.2	145.3	125.6
November	127.0	139.5	140.7	--	88.2	145.2	125.5
December	127.3	140.9	140.4	--	88.2	145.6	125.0
Indianapolis, Ind.							
October	--	136.0	--	--	113.6	--	--
November	--	136.3	--	--	113.7	--	--
December	130.4	137.7	139.2	116.0	113.9	148.5	129.3
Jacksonville, Fla.							
October	--	149.0	--	--	117.9	--	--
November	--	149.5	--	--	117.9	--	--
December	137.4	150.7	143.7	--	118.0	149.1	138.4
Kansas City, Mo.							
October	127.0	132.9	147.7	--	112.6	140.8	126.8
November	127.4	133.8	147.4	--	112.6	141.5	126.8
December	128.0	135.3	147.7	109.7	112.6	142.1	126.9
Los Angeles, Calif.							
October	132.3	147.2	146.6	--	92.5	143.5	129.2
November	133.0	149.2	146.2	--	92.5	143.8	129.2
December	133.7	150.9	146.8	110.8	92.5	143.7	129.5
Manchester, N. H.							
October	--	134.6	--	--	122.5	--	--
November	--	136.1	--	--	122.3	--	--
December	131.0	137.3	151.3	--	122.2	153.1	121.6
Memphis, Tenn.							
October	--	148.6	--	--	106.6	--	--
November	--	148.8	--	--	106.6	--	--
December	133.3	151.8	152.3	--	106.6	144.0	120.3

TABLE 3 (Continued) - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for October and November revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Electric- ity & Ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
Milwaukee, Wis.							
October	--	137.4	--	--	111.5	--	--
November	--	137.8	--	--	111.5	--	--
December	127.2	139.1	140.1	108.7	111.6	147.6	120.6
Minneapolis, Minn.							
October	125.2	132.6	143.9	--	104.1	144.1	123.4
November	125.6	133.7	144.1	--	104.2	144.7	123.4
December	126.1	135.1	143.9	--	104.3	146.1	123.4
Mobile, Ala.							
October	--	148.1	--	--	103.6	--	--
November	--	148.4	--	--	103.5	--	--
December	131.1	148.9	141.1	114.2	103.5	147.7	120.2
New Orleans, La.							
October	--	154.4	--	--	102.8	--	--
November	--	153.2	--	--	102.9	--	--
December	133.3	152.7	142.5	107.2	102.8	139.8	122.2
New York, N. Y.							
October	129.4	139.5	155.8	--	115.0	137.9	126.9
November	130.4	141.7	156.8	--	113.5	140.1	126.9
December	131.1	143.3	157.2	103.5	113.7	141.0	126.9
Norfolk, Va.							
October	--	144.3	--	--	120.5	--	--
November	--	144.3	--	--	120.5	--	--
December	134.0	145.2	146.4	109.1	120.5	150.2	133.1
Philadelphia, Pa.							
October	127.8	137.2	149.1	--	113.4	146.2	120.5
November	128.2	137.9	149.3	--	113.3	146.6	120.5
December	128.6	138.7	150.1	--	113.8	147.8	120.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.							
October	130.0	140.0	169.1	--	112.1	143.1	119.4
November	130.0	139.7	169.8	--	112.1	144.1	119.6
December	130.9	140.3	175.4	107.5	112.1	144.2	119.8
Portland, Maine							
October	--	133.0	--	--	113.5	--	--
November	--	133.9	--	--	113.4	--	--
December	126.4	135.2	147.2	106.3	113.6	144.1	122.2

For footnotes, see page 8.

December 1945

TABLE 3 (Continued) - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER, 1945

(Note: Some indexes for October and November revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electric-ity & Ice	House-furnish-ings	Miscel-laneous
Portland, Oreg.							
October	--	149.7	--	--	120.5	--	--
November	--	151.4	--	--	120.5	--	--
December	137.3	153.9	142.5	114.3	120.5	150.4	131.9
Richmond, Va.							
October	--	137.7	--	--	109.8	--	--
November	--	137.8	--	--	109.7	--	--
December	126.4	138.6	145.7	--	109.6	147.1	119.2
St. Louis, Mo.							
October	126.9	141.4	144.9	--	108.3	128.5	120.0
November	126.8	141.4	143.8	--	108.3	129.1	120.0
December	128.4	144.1	144.3	--	108.3	128.0	122.6
San Francisco, Calif.							
October	133.0	147.9	143.6	--	92.9	131.6	133.3
November	134.4	151.5	144.7	--	92.9	131.5	133.2
December	135.8	154.1	147.0	--	92.9	132.0	133.8
Savannah, Ga.							
October	137.5	155.4	146.0	--	113.0	158.6	129.8
November	137.8	155.6	147.6	--	112.9	159.6	129.9
December	137.7	154.4	148.6	115.5	112.7	160.5	131.3
Scranton, Pa.							
October	--	138.7	--	--	117.7	--	--
November	--	139.5	--	--	117.7	--	--
December	128.1	141.3	150.5	98.4	118.7	145.9	115.5
Seattle, Wash.							
October	131.9	142.7	147.6	--	104.7	144.5	132.5
November	132.9	145.3	147.5	--	104.8	144.9	132.5
December	134.7	149.6	148.9	--	104.7	148.5	132.9
Washington, D. C.							
October	129.0	140.2	160.9	--	111.1	144.4	129.3
November	129.5	140.8	163.1	--	111.1	145.2	129.3
December	129.9	140.9	165.7	100.3	111.5	145.1	129.4

1/ Data not available.

2/ Data collected in November, 1945.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
 PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
 FROM NOVEMBER 1945 TO DECEMBER 1945

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 December 1945

City	All items	Food	Clothing	Fuel Electric- ity & Ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
AVERAGE	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.2
Atlanta, Ga.	--	0.4	--	1.4	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	0.5	0.4	1.7	0.3	0.7	0.
Birmingham, Ala.	0.4	1.0	0.3	0.	0.3	0
Boston, Mass.	0.2	0.5	-0.6	0.2	1.5	0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.3	0.7	-0.1	0.3	0.3	0
Chicago, Ill.	0.5	1.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0
Cincinnati, Ohio	<u>1/0.2</u>	0.7	<u>1/0.9</u>	0.	<u>1/1.5</u>	<u>1/0.1</u>
Cleveland, Ohio	0.3	0.7	0.	0.1	-0.4	0
Denver, Colo.	1.2	2.8	0.1	0	1.0	0.2
Detroit, Mich.	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.8	-0.2
Houston, Tex.	0.2	1.0	-0.2	0	0.3	-0.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	1.0	--	0.2	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	0.8	--	0.1	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0.5	1.1	0.2	0	0.4	0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.5	1.1	0.4	0	-0.1	0.2
Manchester, N. H.	--	0.9	--	-0.1	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	2.0	--	0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	0.9	--	0.1	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.4	1.0	-0.1	0.1	1.0	0
Mobile, Ala.	--	0.3	--	0	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	-0.3	--	-0.1	--	--
New York, N. Y.	0.5	1.1	0.3	0.2	0.6	0
Norfolk, Va.	--	0.6	--	0	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.7	0.4	3.3	0	0.1	0.2
Portland, Maine	--	1.0	--	0.2	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	1.7	--	0	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	0.6	--	-0.1	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	-1.3	1.9	0.3	0	-0.9	2.2
San Francisco, Calif.	-1.0	1.7	1.6	0	0.4	0.5
Savannah, Ga.	-0.1	-0.8	0.7	-0.2	0.6	1.1
Scranton, Pa.	--	1.3	--	0.8	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	-1.4	3.0	0.9	-0.1	1.1	0.3
Washington, D. C.	0.3	0.1	1.6	0.4	-0.1	0.1

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Change from October, 1945.

TABLE 4A - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM SEPTEMBER 1945 TO DECEMBER 1945

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electricity & Ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
AVERAGE	0.8	1.4	0.8	0	-0.4	1.0	0.2
Atlanta, Ga.	-0.1	0.1	1.1	--	-2.5	0	-0.1
Baltimore, Md.	0.2	0	0.9	--	0.2	2.1	-0.2
Birmingham, Ala.	0.4	0.8	0.6	<u>1</u> /-0.1	0.1	0.4	0
Boston, Mass.	0.2	0.8	-0.2	--	0.2	-1.2	0
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.0	1.7	1.9	<u>1</u> /0.2	0.9	1.2	-0.3
Chicago, Ill.	0.4	1.3	-0.4	<u>1</u> /0.2	0.2	0.0	-0.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.5	0.4	0.9	--	-0.1	1.5	0.6
Cleveland, Ohio	0.7	1.5	0.1	--	0.1	0.4	0.4
Denver, Colo.	1.3	4.1	0.2	<u>1</u> /0.4	-7.4	2.9	0.2
Detroit, Mich.	0.4	1.1	0.4	<u>1</u> /0	-2.6	1.2	0.2
Houston, Tex.	-0.2	0.3	-0.6	--	-3.2	0.3	-0.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	0.7	1.2	0.3	<u>1</u> /0.2	0.3	0.2	0.5
Jacksonville, Fla.	-0.6	-0.8	0.5	--	0.2	-1.6	-0.9
Kansas City, Mo.	0.8	1.9	0.1	<u>1</u> /0.1	0	1.2	0.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.3	2.5	0.4	<u>1</u> /-0.1	0	0.4	1.0
Manchester, N. H.	0.8	1.8	0.7	--	-0.2	2.3	-0.4
Memphis, Tenn.	1.3	2.5	1.7	--	0	1.0	0.1
Milwaukee, Wis.	0.5	0.9	-0.2	<u>1</u> /-0.1	0.1	1.8	0.4
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.8	1.9	0.2	--	0.3	1.6	0.1
Mobile, Ala.	0.4	0	1.5	<u>1</u> /-0.9	-0.1	7.7	0.2
New Orleans, La.	-0.8	-1.9	0.5	<u>1</u> /0	-0.1	1.7	0.4
New York, N. Y.	1.2	2.6	1.5	<u>1</u> /0	-1.0	2.0	-0.2
Norfolk, Va.	0.7	0.8	1.6	<u>1</u> /-0.1	0	4.9	-0.4
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.5	0.8	0.8	--	0.3	1.2	-0.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.8	0.5	4.0	<u>1</u> /0	-0.1	1.0	0
Portland, Maine	0.7	1.6	0.4	<u>2</u> /-0.1	0.1	1.8	0.2
Portland, Oreg.	1.5	3.1	-0.4	<u>1</u> /-0.3	0	2.9	0.8
Richmond, Va.	-0.2	0.1	0.8	--	-0.3	-0.1	0.2
St. Louis, Mo.	1.3	1.9	0	--	0	0.1	2.2
San Francisco, Calif.	2.4	4.6	2.4	--	0	0.3	0.5
Savannah, Ga.	-0.4	-1.8	1.9	<u>1</u> /-0.3	-0.4	2.0	0.6
Scranton, Pa.	0.9	1.4	0.7	<u>1</u> /0.6	0.7	1.5	-0.2
Seattle, Wash.	1.7	3.7	1.5	--	0	1.8	0.2
Washington, D. C.	0.6	-0.4	3.3	<u>1</u> /0	0.4	2.2	0.4

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Change from June, 1945.

2/ Change from June to November, 1945.

TABLE 5 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

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Dec. 1945

Group	Dec. 11 1945 This Month 1/	Nov. 13 1945 Last Month	Dec. 12 1944 Year Ago	May 18 1943 "Hold the Line"*	May 12 1942 GMFR *	Jan. 14 1941 "Little Steel" * 2/	Aug. 15 1939 Month Before War in Europe
-------	--	----------------------------------	--------------------------------	--	-----------------------------	--	--

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL FOODS	141.4	140.1	137.4	143.0	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	109.2	109.1	108.6	107.6	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	131.2	131.0	129.9	138.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	118.3	118.2	118.3	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.6	112.6	112.3	125.5	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	136.4	136.2	135.6	141.6	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	153.1	152.5	150.6	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	221.7	220.8	211.0	200.5	150.9	113.7	99.6
Dairy products	136.2	135.9	133.5	136.9	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	193.2	192.1	188.5	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	177.3	172.3	164.2	190.8	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	188.4	181.9	171.9	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.3	130.6	129.9	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	168.7	168.5	166.4	158.0	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.9	124.9	124.3	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	125.1	124.4	123.3	126.3	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	126.6	126.5	126.4	127.6	127.1	95.3	95.6

Percent Change to Dec. 11, 1945

ALL FOODS	--	0.9	2.9	- 1.1	16.3	44.6	51.2
Cereals & bakery products	--	0.1	0.6	1.5	3.8	15.1	16.9
Meats	--	0.2	1.0	- 5.1	5.6	29.8	37.1
Beef & veal	--	0.1	0	- 9.8	-4.7	8.1	18.8
Pork	--	0	0.3	-10.3	-8.6	30.8	28.0
Lamb	--	0.1	0.6	- 3.7	15.4	38.2	38.1
Chickens	--	0.4	1.7	3.7	35.0	57.5	61.8
Fish, fresh & canned	--	0.4	5.1	10.6	46.9	86.8	122.6
Dairy products	--	0.2	2.0	- 0.5	10.5	29.6	46.3
Eggs	--	0.6	2.5	36.0	67.4	98.4	113.0
Fruits & vegetables	--	2.9	8.0	- 7.1	37.8	90.0	91.9
Fresh	--	3.6	9.6	- 8.5	44.9	101.7	103.0
Canned	--	-0.2	0.3	- 0.6	6.2	42.6	42.2
Dried	--	0.1	1.4	6.8	28.6	69.4	86.8
Beverages	--	0	0.5	0.3	0.2	37.4	31.6
Fats & oils	--	0.6	1.5	- 1.0	2.2	55.8	48.0
Sugar & sweets	--	0.1	0.2	- 0.8	-0.4	32.8	32.4

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

TABLE 6 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
NOV. 13, 1945 TO DEC. 11, 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Prod- ucts	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bev- er ages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
AVERAGE	0.9	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.6	2.9	0.0	0.6	0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	0.4	0.2	-0.2	0.1	-0.2	2.3	0.1	0.8	0
Baltimore, Md.	0.4	0	0.3	0	0.9	1.0	-0.1	0.6	-0.4
Birmingham, Ala.	1.0	0.1	0	0.7	1.8	2.7	0	0.7	0
Boston, Mass.	0.5	0	-0.2	0.4	0.7	1.8	-0.1	0.2	0
Bridgeport, Conn.	0.4	0.1	0	0.4	-0.3	1.6	0	0.6	-0.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.7	-0.1	0.3	-0.1	-0.6	2.7	0	0.7	0.1
Butte, Mont.	0.9	0	-1.2	0	1.7	3.8	-0.2	1.7	0
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	1.1	-0.1	-0.7	3.8	1.6	1.3	-0.1	0.2	0
Charleston, S. C.	0.4	0.2	0.1	0	1.9	0.8	0	0.1	0
Chicago, Ill.	1.1	0	0.4	-0.1	0.5	3.5	0.3	0.2	0.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.7	0.2	-0.1	0	0.5	2.2	0	0.4	0
Cleveland, Ohio	0.7	-0.2	0	0.1	0	2.5	0	0.2	0
Columbus, Ohio	0.4	0	-1.2	0.2	0.5	2.7	-0.2	0.2	-0.1
Dallas, Texas	0.4	0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.4	2.3	0	0.4	0.1
Denver, Colo.	2.8	-0.1	-0.2	0	0.7	10.1	0	0.7	-0.1
Detroit, Mich.	0.6	0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.7	1.7	0.1	1.6	0.4
Fall River, Mass.	0.4	0.2	-0.6	0.7	0.6	3.5	0	0.6	-0.1
Houston, Texas	1.0	0.1	-0.1	0.4	3.8	2.6	0	1.0	0
Indianapolis, Ind.	1.0	0	0	0.8	0.8	3.7	0	1.2	-0.2
Jackson, Miss.	-0.1	0	-0.1	0.1	0.7	-0.8	-0.1	0.8	-0.1
Jacksonville, Fla.	0.8	0.2	-0.1	0.2	1.0	2.3	0	1.5	0
Kansas City, Mo.	1.1	0	-0.5	-0.1	0.6	5.3	-0.2	0.7	0.3
Knoxville, Tenn.	-0.1	0	0.2	0	1.3	-1.5	0	-0.4	0.2
Little Rock, Ark.	0.7	0	0.1	0.1	0.8	2.6	0	0.5	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.1	-0.1	-0.2	0.1	0.2	3.5	0	0.7	-0.2
Louisville, Ky.	0.7	0	0	0	0.4	3.5	0	1.1	-0.1
Manchester, N. H.	0.9	0	0.2	1.0	0.5	2.7	0	1.2	-0.1
Memphis, Tenn.	2.0	-0.3	0	0.1	1.0	7.8	0.2	0.9	0
Milwaukee, Wis.	0.9	0	0.3	0.2	0.9	3.0	-0.1	0.2	0
Minneapolis, Minn.	1.0	0	0.1	-0.1	0.7	4.9	0	0.5	0
Mobile, Ala.	0.3	0	1.0	0.4	0.8	-0.4	0	0.1	0.5
Newark, N. J.	0.3	-0.1	0.7	0.2	0.7	-0.1	0.3	-0.1	0.9
New Haven, Conn.	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.4	-0.5	0.5	0	0.8	0.2
New Orleans, La.	-0.3	-0.2	-1.2	0.5	1.2	-0.5	-0.4	0.4	0
New York, N. Y.	1.1	0.1	0.9	0.4	0.5	2.9	0.2	-0.8	0.1

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 6 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
 PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS OF FOODS
 NOV. 13, 1945 TO DEC. 11, 1945

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 Dec. 1945

City	All Foods	Cereals and Bakery	Meats	Dairy Prod- ucts	Eggs	Fruits and Veg.	Bov- er- ages	Fats and Oils	Sugar and Sweets
Norfolk, Va.	0.6	-0.2	-1.5	0.4	1.9	4.3	-0.1	0.9	0.3
Omaha, Nebr.	1.3	0.2	-0.1	0	1.8	4.9	0.3	0.6	0
Peoria, Ill.	0.2	0.1	0	0.4	0.6	0.3	0	1.4	0
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.6	-0.2	0.2	0.5	0.5	1.8	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.4	0	0	0.1	0.4	1.5	-0.2	0.2	0
Portland, Maine	1.0	0.3	-0.3	0.5	1.2	4.1	0.1	0.2	0
Portland, Oreg.	1.7	0	0.1	0.1	0	5.7	0	0.8	0
Providence, R. I.	0.9	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.2	2.8	-0.1	0.9	0
Richmond, Va.	0.6	-0.1	-0.7	0.5	0.3	3.1	0	1.7	-0.1
Rochester, N. Y.	1.9	0	-0.2	0.1	0.3	11.0	0	1.5	0
St. Louis, Mo.	1.9	0	0	0	1.4	6.5	0.1	0.2	-0.2
St. Paul, Minn.	0.7	0.1	-0.1	0.3	-0.6	3.7	0	0.5	0
Salt Lake City, Utah	0.6	-0.4	-0.2	0	1.5	2.3	-0.7	1.0	-0.2
San Francisco, Calif.	1.7	0	0.2	-0.3	0.3	5.3	0	0.9	0.1
Savannah, Ga.	-0.8	0	0.1	1.0	2.4	-5.1	0.1	0.1	-0.1
Scranton, Pa.	1.3	0	-0.2	0.1	1.0	5.5	0	0.7	0
Seattle, Wash.	3.0	0.1	0.7	1.1	0.2	11.1	0.2	1.2	-0.1
Springfield, Ill.	0.7	0	-0.5	0	-0.4	3.1	0	0.7	0
Washington, D. C.	0.1	0.1	0	0.2	0.1	-0.1	1.1	1.8	0
Wichita, Kans.	1.0	0	-0.1	0.1	-1.8	5.0	0	1.2	0
Winston-Salem, N. C.	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.2	0	0.5	0

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

December 1945

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO DECEMBER 11, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent change to Dec. 11, 1945 from					
	Dec. 11 1945	Nov. 13 1945	Nov. 13 1945	Dec. 12 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMFR *	"Little Steel" 2/*	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	141.4	140.1	0.9	2.9	-1.1	16.3	44.6	51.2
Atlanta, Ga.	141.6	141.0	0.4	2.0	-0.9	17.6	50.2	53.1
Baltimore, Md.	148.1	147.5	0.4	2.9	-2.9	17.7	51.3	56.4
Birmingham, Ala.	145.2	143.8	1.0	2.0	3.2	20.5	51.2	60.1
Boston, Mass.	134.5	133.8	0.5	1.4	-2.6	13.7	41.3	43.9
Bridgeport, Conn.	136.8	136.3	0.4	1.6	-5.5	12.8	41.8	46.8
Buffalo, N. Y.	137.6	136.7	0.7	2.6	-6.9	9.9	37.3	45.6
Butte, Mont.	139.2	137.9	0.9	3.6	0.7	14.6	41.0	47.9
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 3/	144.3	142.8	1.1	3.1	0	16.5	50.5	--
Charleston, S. C.	138.9	138.4	0.4	2.9	-1.0	12.7	44.8	46.1
Chicago, Ill.	139.3	137.8	1.1	2.1	-1.3	14.5	41.9	50.9
Cincinnati, Ohio	138.7	137.7	0.7	3.0	0.3	13.3	43.7	53.4
Cleveland, Ohio	144.8	143.8	0.7	3.0	-1.0	16.7	46.0	54.7
Columbus, Ohio	133.5	133.0	0.4	3.2	-2.1	12.6	42.9	51.5
Dallas, Tex.	137.5	137.0	0.4	3.1	-0.5	17.7	48.5	49.9
Denver, Colo.	141.7	137.9	2.8	2.8	-1.5	15.3	49.5	52.9
Detroit, Mich.	138.3	137.5	0.6	4.2	-3.6	13.0	42.6	52.6
Fall River, Mass.	134.8	134.3	0.4	2.0	-4.1	11.6	38.3	41.3
Houston, Tex.	140.9	139.5	1.0	3.7	-1.9	11.9	37.3	44.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	137.7	136.3	1.0	2.9	-1.8	10.2	40.2	51.8
Jackson, Miss. 3/	150.0	150.1	-0.1	-0.9	-2.0	16.9	42.5	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	150.7	149.5	0.8	2.7	-0.5	18.3	52.5	57.3
Kansas City, Mo.	135.3	133.8	1.1	3.3	-1.9	13.9	46.4	47.9
Knoxville, Tenn. 2/	159.8	160.0	-0.1	0.9	2.0	22.0	64.6	--
Little Rock, Ark.	139.8	138.8	0.7	2.0	-1.4	13.5	46.2	48.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	150.9	149.2	1.1	4.9	3.2	17.8	48.2	59.5
Louisville, Ky.	135.2	134.2	0.7	2.4	-4.5	10.3	41.6	46.8
Manchester, N. H.	137.3	136.1	0.9	2.8	-3.5	10.7	42.1	44.7
Memphis, Tenn.	151.8	148.8	2.0	4.3	1.1	22.9	61.1	69.2
Milwaukee, Wis.	139.1	137.8	0.9	2.9	-2.0	16.1	45.0	52.7
Minneapolis, Minn.	135.1	133.7	1.0	3.6	0.1	11.7	36.5	42.2
Mobile, Ala.	148.9	148.4	0.3	3.0	-0.7	17.4	52.1	55.9
Newark, N. J.	144.0	143.6	0.3	2.7	1.1	19.1	45.7	50.6
New Haven, Conn.	135.8	135.3	0.4	0.4	-6.8	12.6	41.9	44.9
New Orleans, La.	152.7	153.2	-0.3	1.6	0.1	18.4	49.9	56.5
New York, N. Y.	143.3	141.7	1.1	3.3	0	21.4	44.0	49.6

For footnotes, see page 15.

TABLE 7 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO DECEMBER 11, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

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December 1945

City	Indexes (1935-39=100.0)		Percent change to Dec. 11, 1945 from					
	Dec. 11 1945	Nov. 13 1945	Nov. 13 1945	Dec. 12 1944	May 13 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 2/*	Month Before War in Europe
Norfolk, Va.	145.2	144.3	0.6	1.4	-5.3	15.1	51.6	55.1
Omaha, Neb.	134.5	132.8	1.3	3.5	-2.5	12.2	37.4	45.7
Peoria, Ill.	145.7	145.4	0.2	3.7	-2.0	12.9	47.2	56.0
Philadelphia, Pa.	138.7	137.9	0.6	2.7	-2.0	16.2	46.0	49.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	140.3	139.7	0.4	3.1	-1.5	15.6	43.2	51.7
Portland, Maine	135.2	133.9	1.0	1.6	-3.6	11.1	41.9	41.0
Portland, Oreg.	153.9	151.4	1.7	3.9	0.2	14.4	51.3	60.1
Providence, R. I.	140.3	139.0	0.9	3.4	-0.5	14.9	45.7	49.7
Richmond, Va.	138.6	137.8	0.6	1.1	-2.0	14.6	47.9	50.3
Rochester, N. Y.	137.7	135.1	1.9	2.8	-1.4	12.6	37.8	49.2
St. Louis, Mo.	144.1	141.4	1.9	3.3	-0.4	16.4	45.3	53.6
St. Paul, Minn.	133.7	132.8	0.7	3.6	-0.8	12.6	35.6	41.8
Salt Lake City, Utah	146.5	145.6	0.6	3.2	1.2	18.0	50.3	54.9
San Francisco, Calif.	154.1	151.5	1.7	3.4	4.1	22.8	54.7	64.3
Savannah, Ga.	154.4	155.6	-0.8	2.6	0.4	18.5	53.6	59.7
Scranton, Pa.	141.3	139.5	1.3	3.0	-4.7	16.8	44.9	53.4
Seattle, Wash.	149.6	145.3	3.0	4.0	-0.5	15.2	48.1	58.3
Springfield, Ill.	146.5	145.5	0.7	3.2	-1.3	14.5	52.3	55.7
Washington, D. C.	140.9	140.8	0.1	2.8	-1.1	16.7	44.2	49.7
Wichita, Kans. 3/	152.1	150.6	1.0	3.3	0.9	17.9	56.5	--
Winston-Salem, N. C. 3/	142.3	142.1	0.1	2.6	1.6	19.3	51.9	--

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

3/ June 1940 equals 100.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
 December 1945 AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO DECEMBER 11, 1945
 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Dec. 11 1945	Percent change to Dec. 11, 1945 from					
		Nov. 13 1945	Dec. 12 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
(Cents)							
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:							
Cereals:							
Flour, wheat 10 lb.	64.0	- 0.2	- 0.2	5.3	24.0	54.6	73.8
Macaroni 1b.	15.6	- 0.6	- 0.6	2.0	9.9	13.0	11.4
Wheat cereal 2/ 28 oz.	23.3	0	0.9	- 1.7	- 3.3	- 0.9	- 3.7
Corn flakes 8 oz.	6.7	0	3.1	- 1.5	- 6.9	- 5.6	- 4.3
Corn meal 1b.	6.5	0	1.6	16.1	38.3	54.8	62.5
Rice 2/ "	12.9	0	0.8	1.6	4.9	63.3	72.0
Rolled oats "	10.4	0	2.0	19.5	20.9	46.5	46.5
Flour, pancake 2/ 20 oz.	12.4	- 3.1	0.8	17.0	3/	3/	3/
Bakery products:							
Bread, white 1b.	8.8	0	0	- 1.1	1.1	12.8	12.8
Bread, whole wheat "	9.7	1.0	1.0	- 1.0	2.1	11.5	10.2
Bread, rye "	10.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.1	11.1	8.7
Vanilla cookies "	29.0	- 1.7	0.3	- 0.3	4.7	15.5	3/
Soda crackers "	18.8	0	- 0.5	5.6	14.6	25.3	27.0
MEATS:							
Beef:							
Round steak 1b.	40.9	0	0.7	-12.6	- 7.5	6.0	12.4
Rib roast "	33.0	- 0.3	0.3	-12.5	- 2.9	4.8	14.2
Chuck roast "	28.3	0	0.4	-11.0	- 2.1	12.3	25.8
Stew meat 2/ "	29.9	1.0	- 1.6	-14.6	3/	3/	3/
Liver "	37.3	0	0	- 0.5	3/	3/	3/
Hamburger "	27.5	0.4	0	-14.6	3/	3/	3/
Veal:							
Cutlets "	44.7	0	- 0.2	-12.9	-16.6	- 1.1	5.2
Roast, boned and rolled 2/ "	35.9	1.7	0	- 4.8	3/	3/	3/
Pork:							
Chops "	37.3	0.3	0	-11.0	-13.7	28.2	20.7
Bacon, sliced "	41.2	0	0.7	- 9.8	4.8	36.9	35.5
Ham, sliced "	49.8	0.4	- 0.4	-16.0	-15.3	10.4	7.3
Ham, whole "	35.0	0.3	- 0.6	-12.1	- 7.4	33.6	27.7
Salt pork "	21.9	- 0.5	0	-11.3	- 8.8	31.1	42.2
Liver 2/ "	22.1	0	0.5	- 6.4	3/	3/	3/
Sausage 2/ "	38.8	0	0.8	1.3	3/	3/	3/
Bologna, big 2/ "	34.1	0	0.6	0.9	3/	3/	3/
Lamb:							
Leg "	40.3	- 0.2	0.5	- 3.6	19.2	45.0	46.0
Rib chops "	45.6	- 0.7	- 0.2	- 6.2	10.4	30.3	24.3

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO DECEMBER 11, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

		Percent change to Dec. 11, 1945 from						
Commodity	Average Prices Dec. 11 1945	Nov. 13	Dec. 12	May 18	May 12	Jan. 14	Aug. 15	
		1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1939	
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GIPR *	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe	
		(Cents)						
MEATS: (Continued)								
Poultry:								
Roasting chickens 4/ lb.	46.9	0.4	1.7	3.7	35.0	57.5	61.8	
Fish:								
Fish (fresh, frozen) 4/ "	5/	0.5	5.8	11.9	56.9	93.7	126.6	
Salmon, pink 16 oz. can	23.2	0.9	3.1	- 3.3	6.4	47.8	81.2	
Salmon, red 2/ "	40.9	1.2	1.2	- 1.2	2.2	54.9	77.1	
DAIRY PRODUCTS:								
Butter lb.	54.7	0.6	9.4	- 1.6	19.7	43.9	78.2	
Cheese "	35.5	- 0.6	- 1.4	- 7.6	4.4	31.5	43.7	
Milk, fresh (delivered) qt.	15.6	0	0	0	4.7	20.0	30.0	
Milk, fresh (grocery) "	14.5	0	0	0.7	7.4	21.8	31.8	
Milk, evaporated 14 1/2 oz. can	9.9	- 1.0	- 1.0	- 2.0	13.8	39.4	47.8	
EGGS:								
Eggs, fresh 4/ doz.	68.2	0.6	2.5	36.0	67.4	98.4	113.0	
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:								
Fresh fruits and vegetables:								
Fresh fruits:								
Apples lb.	14.3	1.4	33.6	10.9	90.7	175.0	225.0	
Bananas "	10.5	0	- 5.4	-10.3	-12.5	59.1	72.1	
Oranges doz.	49.4	4.5	12.4	16.4	56.4	79.9	55.9	
Grapefruit 2/ ea.	9.0	5.9	2.3	15.4	42.9	2/	2/	
Fresh vegetables:								
Beans, green lb.	19.6	- 2.5	- 4.4	12.6	46.3	40.0	172.2	
Cabbage "	5.0	13.6	-13.8	56.5	11.1	47.1	28.2	
Carrots bunch	8.9	- 1.1	- 3.3	8.5	34.8	46.3	93.5	
Lettuce head	12.7	3.3	1.6	-23.0	38.0	51.2	51.2	
Onions lb.	7.2	2.9	44.0	-16.3	5.9	100.0	100.0	
Potatoes 15 lb.	64.3	3.2	- 4.9	-30.5	21.3	120.2	86.9	
Spinach lb.	11.3	10.8	- 5.0	- 2.6	52.7	54.8	44.9	
Sweetpotatoes "	9.3	20.8	16.2	-48.0	72.2	66.0	69.1	
Beets 2/ bunch	8.7	- 2.2	-10.3	-25.0	2/	2/	2/	
Canned fruits and vegetables:								
Canned fruits:								
Peaches #2 1/2 can	27.8	- 0.7	0	4.9	19.3	66.5	62.6	
Pineapple "	26.4	- 0.4	- 1.1	- 8.0	- 2.6	26.3	25.7	
Grapefruit juice #2 can	14.3	0	- 0.7	2.1	45.9	2/	2/	

For footnotes, see page 18.

TABLE 8 (Continued) - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES*
AVERAGE PRICES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO DECEMBER 11, 1945
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS

Commodity	Average Prices Dec. 11 1945	Percent change to Dec. 11, 1945 from					
		Nov. 13 1945	Dec. 12 1944	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
		Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" 1/ *	Month Before War in Europe
(Cents)							
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: (Cont'd)							
Canned vegetables:							
Beans, green #2 can	13.3	0.8	1.5	-11.3	- 5.0	33.0	33.0
Corn "	14.8	0.7	0.7	5.7	13.8	38.3	42.3
Peas "	13.4	0.8	1.5	-13.5	-15.2	1.5	- 1.5
Tomatoes "	12.5	0.8	3.3	- 2.3	3.3	45.8	45.3
Soup, vegetable 2/ 11 oz. can	13.2	1.5	- 0.8	0.8	3/	3/	3/
Dried fruits and vegetables:							
Dried fruits:							
Prunes lb.	17.4	1.8	2.4	6.1	41.5	81.2	97.7
Dried vegetables:							
Navy beans lb.	11.3	- 0.9	1.8	13.0	25.6	73.8	94.8
Soup, dehydrated, chicken noodle 2/ oz.	3.9	2.6	5.4	5.4	3/	3/	3/
BEVERAGES:							
Coffee lb.	30.7	0	1.3	2.3	6.2	45.3	37.7
Tea 1/4 lb.	24.0	- 0.4	0	11.6	7.1	36.4	39.5
Cocoa 2/ 1/2 lb.	10.4	1.0	0	13.0	2.0	14.3	20.9
FATS AND OILS:							
Lard lb.	18.7	0	- 0.5	- 2.1	4.5	101.1	88.9
Shortening other than lard:							
In cartons lb.	19.8	- 0.5	- 2.0	- 2.0	0	75.2	69.2
In other containers "	24.5	0	- 1.2	0.8	- 5.0	33.9	21.3
Salad dressing pint	25.6	3.6	- 0.8	1.6	0.8	27.4	3/
Oleomargarine lb.	23.7	- 1.7	- 2.1	0.9	5.8	51.9	43.6
Peanut butter "	31.0	5.8	9.5	- 4.6	15.2	73.2	73.2
Oil, cooking or salad 2/ pint	29.8	- 0.3	- 2.9	- 2.3	3/	3/	3/
SUGAR AND SWEETS:							
Sugar lb.	6.7	1.5	0	- 1.5	- 2.9	31.4	28.8
Corn sirup 24 oz.	15.7	0	- 0.6	0.6	6.1	15.4	14.6
Molasses 2/ 18 oz.	15.8	0	- 0.6	1.3	9.0	17.9	16.2
Apple butter 2/ 16 oz.	14.6	1.4	8.1	13.2	3/	3/	3/

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

2/ Not included in the index.

3/ Not priced in earlier period.

4/ Percent change computed on the index.

5/ Composite price not computed.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX* AND RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD - JANUARY 1946

January Consumers' Prices Remain at 25 Year Peak

Retail prices remained unchanged on the average during January 1946 at the 25-year peak reached in December. Slightly higher costs of clothing, house-furnishings, coal, fuel oil, and miscellaneous goods and services were offset by a sharp seasonal drop in retail prices of eggs. The consumers' price index prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, was 129.9 percent of the 1935-39 average in mid-January and mid-December.

Food costs, the most important part of the budget for moderate-income city families, declined 0.3 percent between mid-December and mid-January. Substantial decreases in egg prices, usual at this time of the year, were responsible for this decline. Prices of foods other than eggs increased 0.6 percent, with fresh fruits and vegetables rising 2.3 percent on the average. Green beans, cabbage, onions, spinach, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes advanced seasonally, while oranges and lettuce dropped sharply. Prices of green beans rose 26 percent following ceiling adjustments in December; lettuce fell 17 percent as large supplies reached the markets. Peanut butter advanced by 2.9 percent.

Clothing costs increased slightly between mid-December and mid-January. Higher costs were reported for men's overcoats, business shirts, work clothing, sweaters, felt hats, and socks. Women's heavy winter coats declined, reflecting end-of-season sales; rayon slips and rayon crepe dresses also cost less as stocks of these garments improved. Preticketed garments, made of fabrics allocated by government agencies to producers who agree to make low and medium-priced apparel with the retail price attached to the garments, resulted in lower costs for some apparel in a number of cities. Women's hosiery of all types disappeared from store counters throughout the nation.

Coal and fuel oil prices advanced 1.3 percent between December and January. On January 2, retailers were allowed to raise anthracite and bituminous coal prices 10 cents per ton to cover increased distribution costs. Prices of light and medium heating oils increased under revised OPA ceilings, effective December 19 for the Atlantic Coast area. Rate reductions lowered the average cost of electricity to Detroit families by 3.7 percent.

Average retail prices of housefurnishings and miscellaneous goods and services rose 0.1 and 0.3 percent over the month. Wool blankets were slightly higher, and price advances in a few cities for bedroom furniture, stoves, and sheets offset decreases in other cities. Newspaper prices increased in Buffalo, and charges for streetcar tokens advanced in Detroit.

Rents were not surveyed in January.

(end)

*NOTE: The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The index only partially shows the wartime effects of changes in quality, availability of consumer goods, etc. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the index for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If small cities were included in the national average, another 1/2 point would be added. If account is also taken of continued deterioration of quality and disappearance of low-priced merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, the over-all adjustment for the period January 1941 to September 1945 would total approximately 5 points. As merchandise of prewar quality and specifications comes back into the markets and the Bureau is able regularly to price it again, this adjustment factor will gradually decrease and finally disappear.

General Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 3, which have been estimated for January 1 (the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board), by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

GMPR - The General Maximum Price Regulation was issued on May 18, 1942. It established retail price ceilings at their highest levels in March 1942.

The President's "hold-the-line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is therefore used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Jan. 1946	Dec. 1945	Jan. 1945	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	129.9	129.9	127.1	125.1	116.0	100.8	98.6
Food	141.0	141.4	137.3	145.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing	149.5	149.4	143.0	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent	--	108.3	--	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	110.8	110.3	109.7	107.6	104.9	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	93.8	94.0	95.5	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	127.2	126.1	123.6	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	148.5	148.3	143.6	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	125.2	124.8	123.3	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to January, 1946

ALL ITEMS	--	6.0	2.2	3.8	12.0	28.9	31.7
Food	--	-0.3	2.7	-1.4	16.0	44.5	50.8
Clothing	--	0.1	4.5	16.9	18.5	47.7	49.1
Rent 1/	--	--	--	0.3	-1.5	3.1	3.8
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	0.5	1.0	3.0	5.6	9.9	13.6
Gas & electricity	--	-0.2	-1.8	-2.4	-2.9	-3.8	-5.3
Other fuels & ice	--	0.9	2.9	7.2	12.7	22.3	32.1
Housefurnishings	--	0.1	3.4	18.7	21.5	48.2	47.6
Miscellaneous	--	0.3	1.5	8.6	12.9	23.0	21.7

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Percent change to December 1945.

TABLE 2 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Jan. 15 1946 This Month 1/	Dec. 11 1945 Last Month	Jan. 16 1945 Year Ago	May 18 1943 "Hold the Line" *	May 12 1942 GMPR *	Jan. 14 1941 "Little Steel" * 2/	Aug. 15 1939 Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL FOODS	141.0	141.4	137.3	143.0	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	109.4	109.2	108.7	107.6	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	131.4	131.2	130.2	138.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	118.2	118.3	118.4	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.6	112.6	112.5	125.5	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	136.4	136.4	135.5	141.6	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	152.7	153.1	152.2	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	227.3	221.7	210.1	200.5	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	136.4	136.2	135.5	136.9	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	172.4	193.2	169.6	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	180.8	177.3	168.9	190.8	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	192.7	188.4	177.9	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.5	130.3	129.7	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.0
Dried	169.0	168.7	166.9	158.0	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.9	124.9	124.4	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	125.5	125.1	123.4	126.3	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	126.5	126.6	126.3	127.6	127.1	95.3	95.6
Percent Change to January 15, 1946							
ALL FOODS	--	- 0.3	2.7	- 1.4	16.0	44.2	50.8
Cereals & bakery products	--	0.2	0.6	1.7	4.0	15.3	17.1
Meats	--	0.2	0.9	- 5.0	5.7	30.0	37.3
Beef & veal	--	- 0.1	-0.2	- 9.9	-4.8	8.0	18.7
Pork	--	0	0.1	-10.3	-8.6	30.8	28.0
Lamb	--	0	0.7	- 3.7	15.4	38.2	38.1
Chickens	--	- 0.3	0.3	3.5	34.7	57.1	61.4
Fish, fresh & canned	--	2.5	8.2	13.4	50.6	91.5	128.2
Dairy products	--	0.1	2.2	- 0.4	10.6	29.8	46.5
Eggs	--	-10.8	1.7	21.3	49.4	77.0	90.1
Fruits & vegetables	--	2.0	7.0	- 5.2	40.5	93.8	95.7
Fresh	--	2.3	8.3	- 6.4	48.2	106.3	107.7
Canned	--	0.2	0.6	- 0.5	6.4	42.8	42.5
Dried	--	0.2	1.3	7.0	28.8	69.7	87.2
Beverages	--	0	0.4	0.3	0.2	37.4	31.0
Fats & oils	--	0.3	1.7	- 0.6	2.5	56.3	48.5
Sugar & Sweets	--	- 0.1	0.2	- 0.9	-0.5	32.7	32.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO JANUARY 1946
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Dec. 1945	Jan. 1945	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	0.0	2.2	3.8	12.0	28.9	-31.7
Baltimore, Md.	-0.2	1.8	3.1	11.8	31.3	33.9
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.1	1.5	6.0	12.3	31.2	35.3
Boston, Mass.	0.2	1.3	2.4	10.4	26.3	26.9
Buffalo, N. Y.	0	1.9	0.8	7.7	27.4	31.8
Chicago, Ill.	0.1	1.7	2.9	10.0	26.6	29.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	0	2.0	4.6	11.7	30.0	33.1
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.1	1.8	3.3	11.3	29.6	32.2
Denver, Colo.	-0.4	1.3	2.7	10.6	27.8	29.6
Detroit, Mich.	0.6	3.6	3.8	11.2	30.8	34.1
Houston, Tex.	-0.2	1.5	2.2	9.4	24.6	26.2
Kansas City, Mo.	-0.1	2.2	4.4	12.1	30.0	29.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	-0.8	2.6	5.4	12.3	29.4	31.9
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.1	2.4	3.6	8.9	24.0	26.7
New York, N. Y.	0.1	2.6	5.6	15.8	29.9	32.5
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.2	2.2	3.2	12.3	29.8	31.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.4	2.6	5.2	13.5	29.8	33.5
St. Louis, Mo.	0.2	2.5	3.7	11.2	27.3	31.1
San Francisco, Calif.	-1.3	1.6	4.7	14.0	31.7	35.0
Savannah, Ga.	-0.1	2.0	4.3	13.8	35.7	38.6
Seattle, Wash.	-1.0	1.7	3.0	10.1	30.7	33.0
Washington, D. C.	0.6	3.6	5.7	13.9	30.8	32.6

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, JANUARY 1946

(Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
				Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	129.9	141.0	149.5	110.8	93.8	127.2	148.5	125.2
Atlanta, Ga.	--	141.5	--	113.0	83.0	140.6	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	132.2	147.7	155.5	112.0	96.5	124.6	148.6	123.2
Birmingham, Ala.	133.3	144.6	145.3	108.3	79.6	129.8	140.3	127.4
Boston, Mass.	125.2	135.1	145.7	117.9	105.2	125.0	144.2	119.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	129.8	136.9	150.3	108.9	94.9	121.3	147.2	127.4
Chicago, Ill.	128.1	139.2	142.8	106.5	91.9	121.5	139.8	121.5
Cincinnati, Ohio	129.5	138.2	151.7	108.4	90.8	125.2	146.4	126.5
Cleveland, Ohio	132.2	144.2	147.3	114.4	104.9	123.7	147.5	124.1
Denver, Colo.	127.8	139.5	138.8	97.8	77.3	122.1	162.6	124.7
Detroit, Mich.	132.1	137.8	149.5	111.3	84.1	131.9	159.2	136.1
Houston, Texas	127.1	140.8	139.0	88.7	81.8	107.2	145.1	125.0
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	138.0	--	114.7	91.6	128.1	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	149.9	--	118.1	92.8	140.1	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	127.9	134.5	147.3	114.3	95.3	131.5	144.8	126.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	132.6	148.6	145.3	92.5	91.0	99.8	143.4	129.4
Manchester, N. H.	--	136.7	--	123.1	104.6	132.3	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	151.2	--	107.3	77.0	124.1	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	137.5	--	112.1	95.9	123.2	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	126.2	134.3	146.4	104.8	84.0	118.7	147.1	123.4
Mobile, Ala.	--	147.9	--	105.7	83.6	119.4	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	152.7	--	102.9	77.1	129.8	--	--
New York, N. Y.	131.2	143.5	157.7	114.1	95.0	143.6	141.6	126.9
Norfolk, Va.	--	146.5	--	120.9	100.1	137.4	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	128.8	138.9	149.9	115.0	92.5	132.1	147.7	120.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	131.4	141.0	175.3	112.8	103.2	129.3	144.3	120.3
Portland, Maine	--	134.2	--	114.8	98.9	123.0	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	149.1	--	120.6	83.0	160.5	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	138.7	--	110.1	98.9	116.9	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	128.6	144.3	144.9	109.4	99.6	118.1	128.0	122.7
San Francisco, Calif.	134.1	149.5	147.0	92.9	86.2	113.2	132.4	133.7
Savannah, Ga.	137.6	153.8	149.2	112.9	93.2	125.0	160.6	131.3
Seranton, Pa.	--	140.2	--	119.5	91.8	136.4	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	133.4	146.0	148.2	105.0	83.9	122.6	146.0	132.9
Washington, D. C.	130.7	143.0	166.3	112.0	94.4	123.7	145.4	129.4

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM DECEMBER 1945 TO JANUARY 1946

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
				Total	Gas & Elec- tricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	0.0	-0.3	0.1	0.5	-0.2	0.9	0.1	0.3
Atlanta, Ga.	--	-0.1	--	0.4	-0.6	0.9	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	-0.2	-0.3	-0.6	0.4	0	0.7	-0.1	0
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.1	-0.4	-0.4	0.7	0	0.9	-0.4	0
Boston, Mass.	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.8	0	1.1	-0.4	-0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	0	-0.5	0.3	0.5	0	0.7	-0.4	0.8
Chicago, Ill.	0.1	-0.1	0.4	-0.2	-1.3	0.6	0.1	0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	0	-0.4	0.7	0.6	0	1.1	0.1	0
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.4	0	0.8	0.3	0.2
Denver, Colo.	-0.4	-1.3	1.2	0.5	0	0.8	-1.4	0
Detroit, Mich.	0.6	-0.4	0.1	-0.3	-2.1	0.8	0.8	3.6
Houston, Tex.	-0.2	-0.1	-1.0	0.6	0.9	0	-0.3	0
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	0.2	--	0.7	0	0.9	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	-0.5	--	0.1	0	0.1	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	-0.1	-0.6	-0.3	1.5	0	2.5	1.9	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	-0.8	-1.5	-1.0	0	0	0	-0.2	-0.1
Manchester, N. H.	--	-0.4	--	0.7	-0.2	1.1	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	-0.4	--	0.7	0	0.8	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	-1.2	--	0.4	0	0.7	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.1	-0.6	1.7	0.5	0	0.8	0.7	0
Mobile, Ala.	--	-0.7	--	0.2	0	0.3	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	0	--	0.1	0.1	0.2	--	--
New York, N. Y.	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	0	0.7	0.4	0
Norfolk, Va.	--	0.9	--	0.3	0	0.6	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.2	0.1	-0.1	1.1	0	1.5	-0.1	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.4	0.5	-0.1	0.6	0.2	1.2	0.1	0.4
Portland, Maine	--	-0.7	--	1.1	0.1	1.3	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	-3.1	--	0.1	0	0.1	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	0.1	--	0.5	0	0.6	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	0.2	0.1	0.4	1.0	0	1.7	0	0.1
San Francisco, Calif.	-1.3	-3.0	0	0	0	0	0.3	-0.1
Savannah, Ga.	-0.1	-0.4	0.4	0.2	0	0.2	0.1	0
Scranton, Pa.	--	-0.8	--	0.7	0	0.9	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	-1.0	-2.4	-0.5	0.3	0	0.4	-0.3	0
Washington, D. C.	0.6	1.5	0.4	0.4	0	0.7	0.2	0

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX* AND RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD - FEBRUARY 1946

Consumers' Prices Decline Slightly

Retail prices for consumers' goods in large cities declined 0.4 percent between January 15 and February 15, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Lower prices for food, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services more than offset higher costs for clothing and fuel oil. The consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities was 129.4 percent of the 1935-39 average.

Average retail food costs dropped 1.0 percent during the month as the retail price of eggs, which represent about 6 percent of the urban families food bill, fell more than 16 percent. Following their usual seasonal movement, egg prices advanced 38 percent from April to December 1945 when they reached a high of 68.2 cents per dozen; since December, egg prices have dropped 25 percent or 18 cents to 50.1 cents per dozen.

Prices of foods other than eggs increased on the average 0.1 percent between mid-January and mid-February. The average price of cheese rose 2 percent as the first effect of the February 1 removal of the subsidy was reflected in the index. Green beans dropped 15 percent as lower ceiling prices became effective.

Clothing costs continued to advance fractionally (0.3 percent) to bring the clothing index to 149.9 percent of the 1935-39 average. The cost of men's business shirts; work clothing; sweaters; undershirts; hats; and socks rose as inventories of men's clothing remained low and only the higher priced garments were available. Retailers reported slightly lower prices, however, for some men's top-coats and wool suits; and women's percale housedresses. Gloves advanced sharply and men's and women's street shoes in the lower price ranges edged upward. Shoe repair prices rose a few cities following the issuance of uniform regional ceilings.

Coal and fuel oil prices increased 0.5 percent during the month ending February 15. Retail prices of heating oils increased 3.4 percent. Higher ceilings for these fuels, allowed by OPA at all levels of sale along the Atlantic Coast on December 19, were raised on January 24 to a uniform half cent per gallon and extended to all areas east of the Rockies. Coal and coke prices were higher in New York City where dealers were permitted to pass on increased delivery costs to consumers. Higher prices were also reported for coke and bituminous coal in Detroit.

Costs of housefurnishings and miscellaneous goods and services decreased 0.1 percent each over the month. Lower prices for cook stoves more than offset slightly higher prices for mattresses, sheets, and brooms. Beauty shop charges declined in Pittsburgh while higher charges were reported in Detroit.

Rents were not surveyed in February.

(end)

*NOTE: The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The index only partially shows the wartime effects of changes in quality, availability of consumer goods, etc. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the index for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If small cities were included in the national average, another 1/2 point would be added. If account is also taken of continued deterioration of quality and disappearance of low-priced merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, the over-all adjustment for the period January 1941 to September 1945 would total approximately 5 points. As merchandise of prewar quality and specifications comes back into the markets and the Bureau is able regularly to price it again, this adjustment factor will gradually decrease and finally disappear.

General Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1 (the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board), by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

GMPR - The General Maximum Price Regulation was issued on May 18, 1942. It established retail price ceilings at their highest levels in March 1942.

The President's "hold-the-line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is therefore used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Feb. 1946	Jan. 1946	Feb. 1945	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	129.4	129.9	126.9	125.1	116.0	100.8	98.6
Food	139.6	141.0	136.5	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing	149.9	149.5	143.3	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent	--	--	--	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	111.0	110.8	110.0	107.6	104.9	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	93.8	93.8	95.5	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	127.7	127.2	124.1	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	148.4	148.5	144.0	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	125.1	125.2	123.4	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to February 1946

ALL ITEMS	--	-0.4	2.0	3.4	11.6	28.4	31.2
Food	--	-1.0	2.3	-2.4	14.8	43.0	49.3
Clothing	--	0.3	4.6	17.2	18.8	48.1	49.5
Rent 1/	--	--	--	0.3	-1.5	3.1	3.8
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	0.2	0.9	3.2	5.8	10.1	13.8
Gas & electricity	--	0.0	-1.3	-2.4	-2.9	-3.3	-5.3
Other fuels & ice	--	0.4	2.9	7.6	13.1	22.8	32.6
Housefurnishings	--	-0.1	3.1	18.6	21.4	48.1	47.5
Miscellaneous	--	-0.1	1.4	8.5	12.8	22.9	24.6

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Percent change to December 1945.

TABLE 2 - RETAIL PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group.	Feb. 12 1946	Jan. 15 1946	Feb. 13 1945	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" * 2/	Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL FOODS	139.6	141.0	136.5	143.0	121.6	97.3	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	109.3	109.4	103.7	107.6	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	131.3	131.4	130.7	138.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	113.3	113.2	113.4	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.6	112.6	112.5	125.5	123.2	86.1	86.0
Lamb	136.9	136.4	135.5	141.6	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	151.2	152.7	152.9	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	226.9	227.3	215.2	200.5	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	136.6	136.4	133.5	136.9	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	144.2	172.4	153.2	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	181.2	180.3	166.9	190.8	123.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	193.0	192.7	177.3	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.9	130.5	129.3	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	169.9	169.0	167.0	158.0	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.9	124.9	124.5	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	125.4	125.5	123.5	126.3	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	126.9	126.5	126.3	127.6	127.1	95.3	95.6
Percent Change to February 1946							
ALL FOODS	--	- 1.0	2.3	- 2.4	14.8	42.7	49.3
Cereals & bakery products	--	0.4	1.0	2.0	4.4	15.7	17.6
Meats	--	- 0.1	0.5	- 5.1	5.6	29.9	37.2
Beef & veal	--	0.1	- 0.1	- 9.3	- 4.7	8.1	18.8
Pork	--	0	0.1	-10.3	- 8.6	30.8	28.0
Lamb	--	0.4	1.0	- 3.3	15.8	38.7	38.6
Chickens	--	- 1.0	- 1.1	2.4	33.3	55.6	59.3
Fish, fresh & canned	--	- 0.2	5.4	13.2	50.4	91.2	127.8
Dairy products	--	0.1	2.3	- 0.2	10.8	30.0	46.7
Eggs	--	-16.4	- 5.9	1.5	25.0	48.0	59.0
Fruits & vegetables	--	0.2	7.3	- 5.0	40.8	94.2	96.1
Fresh	--	0.2	8.5	- 6.2	43.5	106.6	103.0
Canned	--	0.3	0.8	- 0.2	6.7	43.2	42.9
Dried	--	0.5	1.7	7.5	29.5	70.6	88.2
Beverages	--	0	0.3	0.3	0.2	37.4	31.6
Fats & oils	--	- 0.1	1.5	- 0.7	2.5	56.2	48.4
Sugar & sweets	--	0.3	0.5	- 0.5	- 0.2	33.2	32.7

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO FEBRUARY 1946
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Jan. 1946	Feb. 1945	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line "	GMFR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	-0.4	2.0	3.4	11.6	28.4	31.2
Baltimore, Md.	-0.5	1.2	2.6	11.3	30.6	33.2
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.4	1.8	5.6	11.9	30.7	34.8
Boston, Mass.	-0.4	1.1	2.0	10.0	25.8	28.4
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.1	1.6	0.7	7.6	27.3	31.7
Chicago, Ill.	-0.3	1.6	2.6	9.6	26.2	29.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.5	1.7	4.0	11.1	29.3	32.4
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.5	1.5	2.8	10.8	29.0	31.6
Denver, Colo.	0.0	1.5	2.7	10.6	27.8	29.6
Detroit, Mich.	-0.3	3.3	3.5	10.9	30.4	33.7
Houston, Tex.	-0.3	1.5	1.8	9.0	24.2	25.8
Kansas City, Mo.	-0.5	1.7	3.3	11.5	29.3	29.0
Los Angeles, Calif.	-0.1	3.0	5.3	12.2	29.3	31.8
Minneapolis, Minn.	-0.3	2.1	3.3	8.5	23.6	26.2
New York, N. Y.	-0.3	2.7	5.3	15.4	29.5	32.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.5	1.3	2.7	11.8	29.2	31.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.3	2.3	4.9	13.1	29.4	33.1
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.5	2.2	3.1	10.6	26.6	30.4
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.5	1.7	4.1	13.4	31.0	34.3
Savannah, Ga.	-0.5	2.4	4.9	14.4	36.4	39.3
Seattle, Wash.	1/	2.0	3.0	10.1	30.7	32.0
Washington, D. C.	-0.7	2.9	4.9	13.2	29.9	31.6

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Less than .1 percent.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, FEBRUARY 1946

(Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
				Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	129.4	139.6	149.9	111.0	93.8	127.7	148.4	125.1
Atlanta, Ga.	--	139.4	--	112.9	82.7	140.6	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	131.5	145.6	156.1	112.1	96.5	124.6	148.4	123.4
Birmingham, Ala.	132.8	142.9	147.0	108.3	79.6	129.8	138.7	127.4
Boston, Mass.	124.7	133.3	147.2	118.8	105.2	126.4	144.1	119.0
Buffalo, N. Y.	129.7	136.1	151.3	108.9	94.9	121.3	147.8	127.7
Chicago, Ill.	127.7	138.6	142.0	106.8	91.9	122.1	139.7	121.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	128.8	136.1	152.4	108.3	90.8	125.0	146.7	126.7
Cleveland, Ohio	131.6	142.7	147.4	114.4	104.9	123.7	145.0	124.1
Denver, Colo.	127.8	139.5	139.4	97.8	77.3	122.0	165.3	124.8
Detroit, Mich.	131.7	136.7	149.5	111.9	84.1	132.9	159.2	135.8
Houston, Texas	126.7	139.3	139.8	88.7	81.8	107.2	144.8	125.0
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	135.6	--	114.7	91.5	128.1	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	145.8	--	118.1	92.8	140.1	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	127.2	132.6	147.4	114.3	95.3	131.5	145.0	126.8
Los Angeles, Calif.	132.5	148.4	144.5	92.5	91.0	99.8	144.1	129.3
Manchester, N. H.	--	135.8	--	124.4	104.6	134.2	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	149.2	--	107.3	77.0	124.1	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	136.3	--	112.2	95.9	123.2	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	125.8	132.5	148.1	105.1	83.6	119.2	147.8	123.4
Mobile, Ala.	--	147.9	--	103.8	83.8	119.4	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	151.1	--	103.0	77.2	129.8	--	--
New York, N. Y.	130.8	141.8	159.9	114.5	95.0	144.7	141.7	126.8
Norfolk, Va.	--	145.4	--	120.9	100.1	137.4	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	128.2	137.6	149.4	114.9	92.5	132.0	148.3	120.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	131.0	140.4	174.1	112.7	103.0	129.2	145.1	120.2
Portland, Maine	--	133.7	--	115.9	98.9	124.6	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	148.7	--	120.6	88.1	160.5	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	137.5	--	110.1	98.9	116.9	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	127.9	142.3	144.9	109.4	99.6	118.1	128.9	122.6
San Francisco, Calif.	133.4	147.7	147.3	92.9	86.2	113.2	129.9	133.6
Savannah, Ga.	138.3	155.6	149.4	112.9	93.2	125.0	161.6	131.3
Scranton, Pa.	--	138.8	--	119.5	91.8	136.4	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	133.4	146.1	148.4	105.1	83.9	122.8	147.0	132.9
Washington, D. C.	129.8	141.0	163.9	112.1	94.4	123.9	145.7	129.6

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM JANUARY 1946 TO FEBRUARY 1946

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
				Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	-0.4	-1.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.4	-0.1	-0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	--	-1.5	--	-0.1	-0.4	0.0	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	-0.5	-1.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.2
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.4	-1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.1	0.0
Boston, Mass.	-0.4	-1.3	1.0	1/0.7	0.0	2/1.0	-0.1	-0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.1	-0.6	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.2
Chicago, Ill.	-0.3	-0.4	-0.6	0.3	0.0	0.5	-0.1	-0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.5	-1.5	0.5	1/0.0	0.0	2/0.0	0.2	0.2
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.5	-1.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.7	0.0
Denver, Colo.	0.0	-0.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	-0.1	1.7	0.1
Detroit, Mich.	-0.3	-0.8	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.8	0.0	-0.2
Houston, Texas	-0.3	-1.1	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	-1.7	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	-2.7	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	-0.5	-1.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	-0.1	-0.1	-0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	-0.1
Manchester, N. H.	--	-0.7	--	1.1	0.0	1.4	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	-1.3	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	-0.9	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	-0.3	-1.3	1.2	1/0.4	2/0.0	0.4	0.5	0.0
Mobile, Ala.	--	0.0	--	0.1	0.2	0.0	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	-1.0	--	0.1	0.1	0.0	--	--
New York, N. Y.	-0.3	-1.2	1.4	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.1	-0.1
Norfolk, Va.	--	-0.8	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.5	-0.9	-0.3	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.4	0.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.3	-0.4	-0.7	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.6	-0.1
Portland, Maine	--	-0.4	--	1.0	0.0	1.2	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	-0.3	--	0.0	0.1	0.0	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	-0.9	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.5	-1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	-0.1
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.5	-1.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.9	-0.1
Savannah, Ga.	0.5	1.2	3/0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0
Scranton, Pa.	--	-1.0	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	4/	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.0
Washington, D. C.	-0.7	-1.4	-1.4	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2

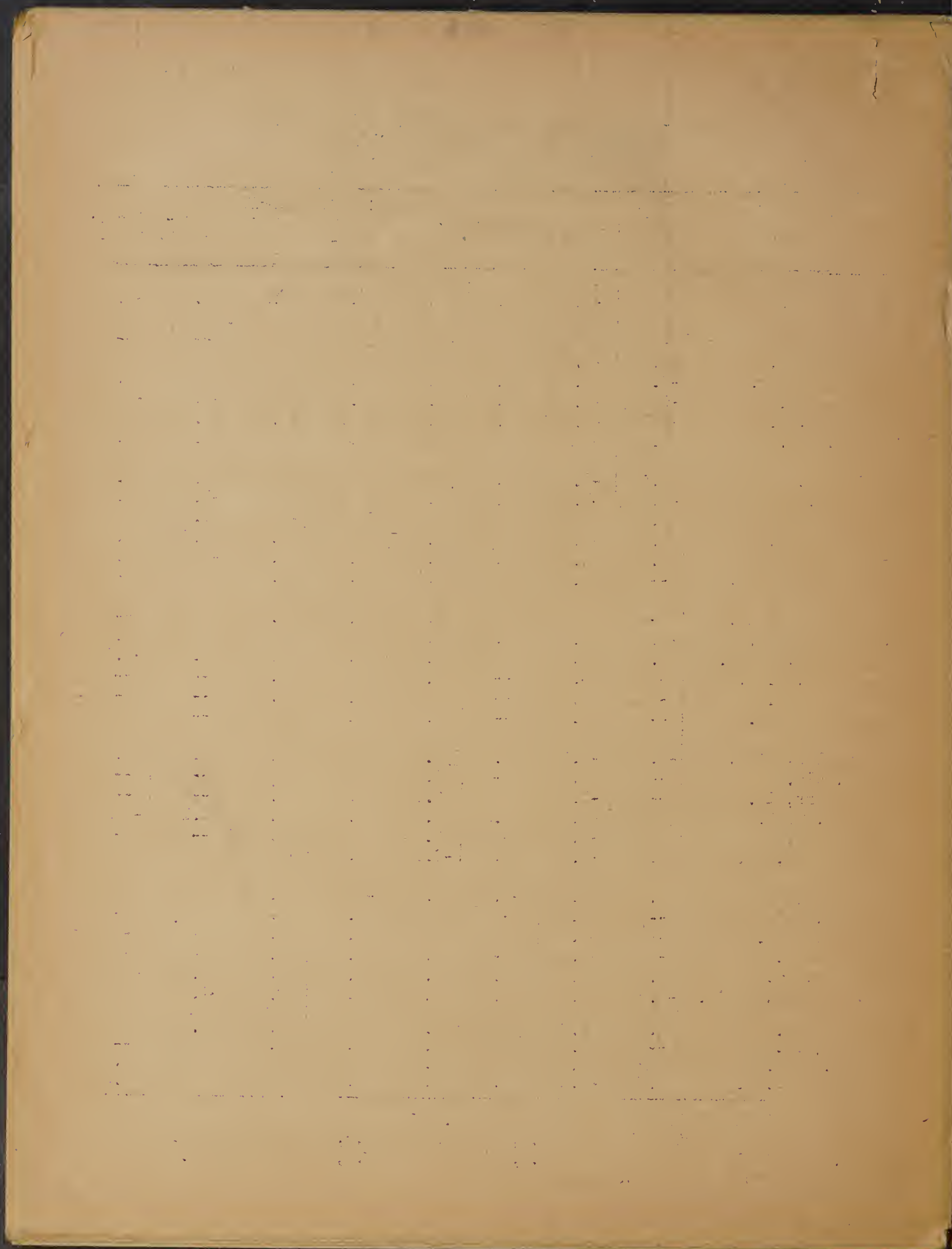
* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

1/ Jan. 1946 index revised Boston 118.0, Cincinnati 108.3, Minneapolis 104.7

2/ Jan. 1946 index revised Boston 125.2, Cincinnati 125.0, Minneapolis 83.6

3/ Jan. 1946 index revised Savannah 149.1

4/ Less than .1 percent



*NOTE: The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose incomes average \$1524 in 1934-36.

The index only partially shows the wartime effects of changes in quality, availability of consumer goods, etc. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the index for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If small cities were included in the national average, another 1/2 point would be added. If account is also taken of continued deterioration of quality and disappearance of low-priced merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, the over-all adjustment for the period January 1941 to September 1945 would total approximately 5 points. As merchandise of prewar quality and specifications comes back into the markets and the Bureau is able regularly to price it again, this adjustment factor will gradually decrease and finally disappear.

General Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1 (the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board), by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

GMPR - The General Maximum Price Regulation became effective on May 18, 1942. It established retail price ceilings at their highest levels in March 1942.

The President's "hold-the-line" order was issued April 6, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is therefore used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

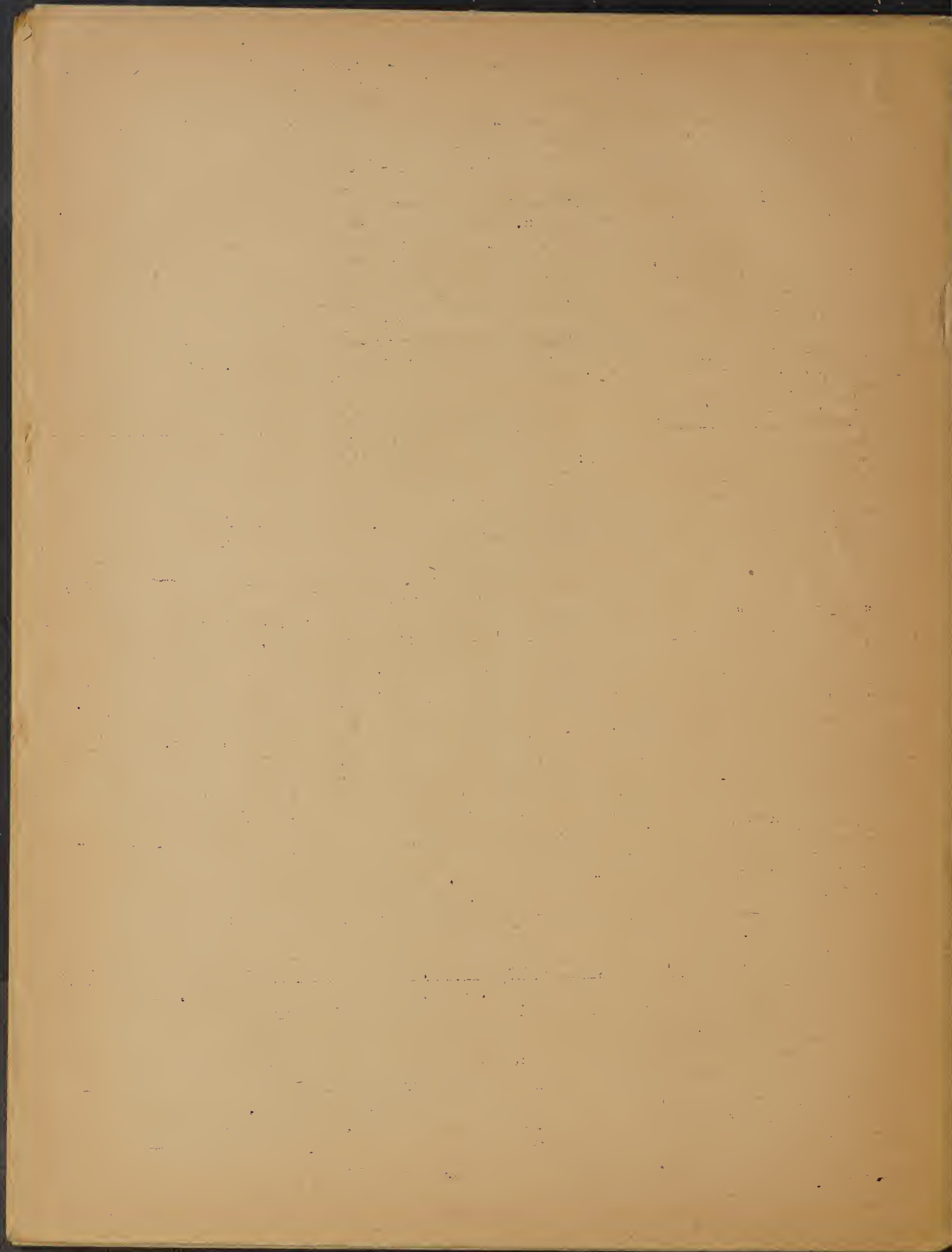


TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Page 3
March 1946

Group	Mar. 1946	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1945	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMFR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	130.2	129.6	126.8	125.1	116.0	100.0	98.6
Food	140.1	139.6	135.9	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing	153.1	150.5	143.7	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent	108.4	--	108.3	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	110.5	111.0	110.0	107.6	104.9	100.0	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.9	93.8	95.5	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	127.7	127.8	124.1	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	150.2	149.7	144.5	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	125.9	125.6	123.6	115.3	110.9	101.0	100.4

Percent Change to March, 1946

ALL ITEMS	--	0.5	2.7	4.1	12.2	29.2	32.0
Food	--	0.4	3.1	- 2.0	15.2	43.5	48.8
Clothing	--	1.7	6.5	19.7	21.3	51.3	52.6
Rent	--	--	0.1	0.4	- 1.4	3.2	3.9
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	-0.5	0.5	2.7	5.3	9.6	13.3
Gas & electricity	--	-1.0	-2.7	- 3.3	- 3.8	- 4.7	- 6.2
Other fuels & ice	--	-0.1	2.9	7.6	13.1	22.8	32.6
Housefurnishings	--	0.3	3.9	20.1	22.9	49.9	49.3
Miscellaneous	--	0.2	1.9	9.2	13.5	23.7	25.4

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 2 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Mar. 12 1946	Feb. 12 1946	Mar. 13 1945	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	CMPR *	"Little Steel" * 2/	Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL FOODS	140.1	139.6	135.9	143.0	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	110.3	109.8	108.7	107.6	105.2	94.8	93.4
Meats	131.3	131.3	130.8	138.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	118.3	118.3	115.4	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	112.8	112.6	112.4	125.5	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	137.0	136.9	135.9	141.6	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	150.2	151.2	153.6	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	227.7	226.9	214.4	200.5	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	137.0	136.6	133.5	136.9	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	139.0	144.2	140.7	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	183.4	181.1R	169.5	190.8	126.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	196.3	193.0	178.6	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	129.6	130.9	129.9	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	168.9	169.8R	167.4	158.0	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.9	124.9	124.5	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	125.9	125.4	123.7	126.3	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	132.4	126.9	126.5	127.6	127.1	95.3	95.6
Percent Change to March 12, 1946							
ALL FOODS	--	0.4	3.1	- 2.0	15.2	43.3	40.8
Cereals & bakery products	--	0.5	1.5	2.5	4.8	16.2	18.1
Meats	--	0	0.4	- 5.1	5.6	29.9	37.2
Beef & veal	--	0	-0.1	- 9.8	- 4.7	8.1	18.8
Pork	--	0.2	0.4	-10.1	- 8.4	31.0	28.2
Lamb	--	0.1	0.8	- 3.2	15.9	38.8	36.7
Chickens	--	-0.7	-2.2	1.8	32.5	54.5	50.8
Fish, fresh & canned	--	0.4	6.2	13.6	50.9	91.8	128.6
Dairy products	--	0.3	2.6	0.1	11.1	30.4	47.2
Eggs	--	-3.6	-1.2	- 2.2	20.5	42.7	53.3
Fruits & vegetables	--	1.3	8.2	- 3.9	42.5	96.6	98.5
Fresh	--	1.7	9.9	- 4.6	51.0	110.2	111.5
Canned	--	-1.0	-0.2	- 1.1	5.6	42.8	41.8
Dried	--	-0.5	0.9	6.9	28.7	69.6	87.0
Beverages	--	0	0.3	0.3	0.2	37.4	31.6
Fats & oils	--	0.4	1.8	- 0.3	2.9	56.8	48.0
Sugar & sweets	--	4.3	4.7	3.8	4.2	38.9	30.5

R Revised.

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
 PERCENT CHANGES TO MARCH 1946
 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1945	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GNPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	0.5	2.7	4.1	12.2	29.2	32.0
Atlanta, Ga.	-	2.3	5.4	14.7	31.9	34.3
Baltimore, Md.	0.5	1.8	3.0	11.8	31.2	33.8
Birmingham, Ala.	0.2	2.2	5.9	12.2	31.1	35.2
Boston, Mass.	0.6	2.3	2.8	10.8	26.8	29.5
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.3	2.4	1.1	8.0	27.8	32.2
Chicago, Ill.	0.2	1.6	2.8	9.9	26.5	29.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.3	2.3	4.5	11.6	29.9	33.0
Cleveland, Ohio	0.1	1.5	2.9	10.9	29.1	31.7
Denver, Colo.	0.7	2.3	3.6	11.5	28.9	30.7
Detroit, Mich.	0.2	3.8	3.8	11.3	30.9	34.2
Houston, Tex.	0.6	2.2	2.6	9.8	25.1	26.7
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	2.0	3.3	9.3	27.8	32.7
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	1.9	4.7	14.2	33.6	30.2
Kansas City, Mo.	0.3	2.1	4.2	11.9	29.8	29.5
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.5	3.0	5.8	12.7	29.9	32.4
Manchester, N. H.	-	1.6	2.3	10.6	30.7	33.9
Memphis, Tenn.	-	2.1	3.8	13.2	32.8	35.5
Milwaukee, Wis.	-	2.3	2.6	11.0	28.1	31.0
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.1	2.4	3.5	8.8	23.9	26.5
Mobile, Ala.	-	2.3	2.8	10.6	30.8	33.2
New Orleans, La.	-	2.3	3.5	13.7	32.2	34.8
New York, N. Y.	0.7	4.0	6.4	16.7	30.9	33.5
Norfolk, Va.	-	2.0	1.4	11.8	33.0	36.8
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.9	2.7	3.7	12.8	30.4	32.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.2	2.8	5.0	13.3	29.6	33.3
Portland, Maine	-	1.1	2.0	9.5	28.7	30.6
Portland, Oreg.	-	2.0	3.7	11.7	33.2	35.8
Richmond, Va.	-	1.5	2.3	9.8	26.5	28.6
St. Louis, Mo.	0.2	2.8	3.5	11.1	27.1	30.9
San Francisco, Calif.	0.1	1.4	4.3	13.6	31.2	34.5
Savannah, Ga.	0.2	2.5	5.2	14.7	36.8	39.7
Scranton, Pa.	-	3.5	2.7	13.3	29.6	34.0
Seattle, Wash.	0.4	2.1	3.6	10.7	31.4	33.8
Washington, D. C.	0.7	4.1	6.1	14.4	31.3	33.1

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH, 1946

(Note: Some indexes for January and February revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
AVERAGE									
January	129.9	141.0	149.7	--	110.8	93.8	127.3	148.6	125.4
February	129.6	139.6	150.5	--	111.0	93.8	127.8	149.7	125.6
March	130.2	140.1	153.1	108.4	110.5	92.9	127.7	150.2	125.9
Atlanta									
January	--	141.5	--	--	113.0	83.0	140.7	--	--
February	--	139.4	--	--	112.9	82.7	140.6	--	--
March	131.6	137.7	148.8	107.3	113.0	82.7	140.8	153.3	126.4
Baltimore									
January	132.2	147.7	155.5	--	112.0	96.5	124.6	148.6	123.2
February	131.5	145.6	156.1	--	112.1	96.5	124.6	148.3	123.4
March	132.1	147.1	155.4	106.6	112.1	96.5	124.6	150.2	123.2
Birmingham									
January	133.3	144.6	145.4	--	108.3	79.6	129.8	140.5	127.4
February	132.9	142.9	147.2	--	108.3	79.6	129.8	139.1	127.4
March	133.2	142.8	147.5	--	108.3	79.6	129.8	141.5	128.6
Boston									
January	125.5	135.1	145.6	--	118.0	105.2	125.2	143.9	120.5
February	125.0	133.3	147.0	--	118.9	105.2	126.5	143.3	120.6
March	125.7	134.1	150.5	105.2	118.1	102.4	126.8	145.2	120.4
Buffalo									
January	129.8	136.9	150.4	--	108.9	94.9	121.3	148.0	127.4
February	129.8	136.1	151.4	--	108.9	94.9	121.3	148.3	127.7
March	130.2	136.4	152.1	--	108.9	94.9	121.4	150.5	128.4
Chicago									
January	128.1	139.2	142.9	--	106.5	91.9	121.5	138.8	121.5
February	127.8	138.6	142.4	--	106.8	91.9	122.1	140.1	121.4
March	128.0	138.7	146.6	--	103.9	86.3	122.1	138.0	121.6
Cincinnati									
January	129.6	138.2	151.7	--	108.3	90.8	125.0	146.7	127.3
February	129.0	136.1	152.3	--	108.3	90.8	125.0	147.1	127.5
March	129.4	136.9	153.0	106.1	108.3	90.8	125.0	146.3	127.6
Cleveland									
January	132.2	144.2	147.2	--	114.4	104.9	123.7	147.6	124.2
February	131.6	142.7	147.2	--	114.4	104.9	123.7	145.1	124.1
March	131.7	142.7	148.6	115.8	114.4	104.9	123.7	144.7	124.1

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

TABLE 4 - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH, 1946

(Note: Some indexes for January and February revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Elect-ricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
Denver									
January	127.9	139.8	139.4	--	97.8	77.3	122.1	163.3	124.7
February	128.0	139.5	140.5	--	97.8	77.3	122.0	163.3	124.9
March	128.9	139.9	146.6	--	97.8	77.3	122.0	170.8	124.8
Detroit									
January	132.3	137.8	149.7	--	111.3	84.1	131.9	158.9	136.9
February	132.0	136.7	150.2	--	111.9	84.1	132.9	158.6	136.7
March	132.2	137.0	151.4	--	111.9	84.0	133.0	156.5	136.9
Houston									
January	127.2	140.8	139.1	--	88.7	81.8	107.2	145.6	125.0
February	126.8	139.3	140.0	--	88.7	81.8	107.2	145.7	125.1
March	127.6	139.3	145.6	109.2	88.7	81.8	107.2	146.5	125.5
Indianapolis									
January	--	138.0	--	--	114.7	91.5	128.1	--	--
February	--	135.6	--	--	114.7	91.5	128.1	--	--
March	130.0	136.0	142.2	--	114.7	91.5	128.1	128.5	128.4
Jacksonville									
January	--	149.9	--	--	117.9	92.8	139.9	--	--
February	--	145.8	--	--	117.8	92.8	139.6	--	--
March	136.1	146.5	146.0	113.3	117.7	92.8	139.4	148.5	138.3
Kansas City									
January	127.9	134.5	147.2	--	114.3	95.3	131.6	145.2	126.9
February	127.3	132.6	147.1	--	114.3	95.3	131.6	145.3	127.0
March	127.7	133.6	147.6	--	114.3	95.3	131.6	146.1	127.2
Los Angeles									
January	132.7	148.6	145.4	--	92.5	91.0	99.8	143.5	129.4
February	132.5	148.4	144.7	--	92.5	91.0	99.8	144.3	129.3
March	133.1	148.9	147.9	--	92.5	91.0	99.8	144.3	129.4
Manchester									
January	--	136.7	--	--	123.1	104.6	132.3	--	--
February	--	135.8	--	--	124.4	104.6	134.3	--	--
March	131.0	136.4	153.0	108.2	121.4	95.6	134.3	155.6	121.8
Memphis									
January	--	151.2	--	--	107.3	77.0	124.1	--	--
February	--	148.2	--	--	107.3	77.0	124.1	--	--
March	132.5	148.8	153.2	115.3	107.3	77.0	124.1	149.6	121.3

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

TABLE 4. - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH, 1946

(Note: Some indexes for January and February revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
Milwaukee									
January	--	137.5	--	--	111.8	95.0	123.2	--	--
February	--	136.3	--	--	111.8	95.0	123.2	--	--
March	127.1	136.5	147.0	--	111.8	95.0	123.3	147.4	120.6
Minneapolis									
January	126.3	134.3	146.5	--	104.7	83.6	118.7	147.1	123.9
February	126.0	132.5	146.2	--	105.1	83.6	119.2	148.1	124.0
March	126.1	131.8	152.1	110.6	105.1	83.6	119.2	148.7	123.6
Mobile									
January	--	147.9	--	--	103.9	83.6	119.8	--	--
February	--	147.9	--	--	104.1	83.8	120.0	--	--
March	131.3	147.7	147.4	--	104.2	83.8	120.4	146.7	119.9
New Orleans									
January	--	152.7	--	--	102.9	77.1	129.8	--	--
February	--	151.1	--	--	103.0	77.2	129.8	--	--
March	134.4	151.5	147.3	--	103.0	77.2	129.8	144.3	126.4
New York									
January	131.4	143.5	158.5	--	114.1	95.0	143.6	142.5	127.1
February	131.3	141.8	161.6	--	114.5	95.0	144.7	143.5	127.8
March	132.2	142.3	167.2	--	113.8	95.0	142.8	144.8	128.4
Norfolk									
January	--	146.5	--	--	120.9	100.1	137.4	--	--
February	--	145.4	--	--	120.9	100.1	137.4	--	--
March	133.8	144.5	146.7	--	120.9	100.1	137.4	148.2	133.6
Philadelphia									
January	128.8	138.9	149.9	--	115.0	92.5	132.1	148.0	120.5
February	128.3	137.6	149.7	--	115.0	92.5	132.1	149.0	120.5
March	129.4	139.0	151.5	107.2	115.0	92.5	132.1	150.9	121.9
Pittsburgh									
January	131.4	141.0	175.2	--	112.8	103.2	129.3	144.6	120.5
February	131.0	140.4	173.9	--	112.7	103.0	129.3	145.8	120.4
March	131.2	141.4	170.4	107.5	112.8	103.2	129.3	146.7	120.9
Portland, Me.									
January	--	134.2	--	--	114.8	98.9	123.1	--	--
February	--	133.7	--	--	115.9	98.9	124.6	--	--
March	126.8	134.8	149.5	--	115.8	98.7	124.6	145.3	122.7

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

TABLE 4 - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH, 1946

(Note: Some indexes for January and February revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
Portland, Oreg.									
January	--	149.1	--	--	120.6	88.0	160.5	--	--
February	--	148.7	--	--	120.6	88.1	160.5	--	--
March	135.9	149.9	143.7	--	121.2	87.9	161.8	156.0	130.7
Richmond									
January	--	138.7	--	--	110.1	98.9	116.9	--	--
February	--	137.5	--	--	110.1	98.9	116.9	--	--
March	126.0	136.5	145.8	104.1	110.1	98.9	116.9	149.4	120.1
St. Louis									
January	128.7	144.3	145.3	--	109.4	99.6	118.1	129.2	122.7
February	128.1	142.3	145.8	--	109.4	99.6	118.1	131.4	122.8
March	128.4	142.3	146.8	106.1	109.4	99.6	118.1	132.9	123.0
San Francisco									
January	134.2	149.5	147.3	--	92.9	86.2	113.2	132.6	134.0
February	133.5	147.7	148.1	--	92.9	86.2	113.2	130.2	133.9
March	133.6	148.3	146.8	106.4	88.3	80.6	113.2	129.4	134.7
Savannah									
January	137.6	153.8	149.5	--	113.0	93.2	125.1	160.9	131.3
February	138.4	155.6	150.2	--	113.0	93.2	125.2	162.1	131.3
March	138.7	154.7	154.0	--	113.1	93.2	125.4	167.7	131.1
Scranton									
January	--	140.2	--	--	119.5	91.8	136.4	--	--
February	--	138.8	--	--	119.5	91.8	136.4	--	--
March	128.6	141.8	151.0	--	119.5	91.8	136.4	147.7	116.6
Seattle									
January	133.5	146.0	148.3	--	105.0	83.9	122.6	146.6	133.1
February	133.6	146.1	148.6	--	105.2	83.9	122.9	148.7	133.2
March	134.2	145.6	150.2	111.9	105.6	83.9	123.8	152.2	135.2
Washington									
January	130.9	143.0	167.0	--	112.0	94.4	123.7	145.8	129.8
February	130.3	141.0	165.3	--	112.1	94.4	123.9	146.5	130.6
March	131.2	141.3	171.2	--	112.1	94.4	123.9	147.6	130.8

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM FEBRUARY 1946 TO MARCH 1946

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
				Total	Gas & Elect-ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	0.5	0.4	1.7	-0.5	-1.0	-0.1	0.3	0.2
Atlanta, Ga.	--	-1.2	--	0.1	0	0	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	0.5	1.0	-0.4	0	0	0	1.3	-0.2
Birmingham, Ala.	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0	0	0	1.7	0.9
Boston, Mass.	0.6	0.6	2.4	-0.7	-2.7	0.2	1.3	-0.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.3	0.2	0.5	0	0	0.1	0.3	0.5
Chicago, Ill.	0.2	-0.1	2.9	-2.7	-6.1	0	-1.5	0.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.3	0.6	0.5	0	0	0	-0.5	0.1
Cleveland, Ohio	0.1	0	1.0	0	0	0	-0.3	0
Denver, Colo.	0.7	0.3	4.3	0	0	0	2.3	-0.1
Detroit, Mich.	0.2	0.2	0.0	0	-0.1	0.1	-1.3	0.1
Houston, Texas	0.6	0	4.0	0	0	0	0.3	0.3
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	0.3	--	0	0	0	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	0.3	--	-0.1	0	-0.1	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0.3	0.8	0.3	0	0	0	0.3	0.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.5	0.3	2.2	0	0	0	0	0.1
Manchester, N. H.	--	0.4	--	-2.4	-8.6	0	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	-0.3	--	0	0	0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	0.1	--	0	0	0.1	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.1	-0.5	2.6	0	0	0	0.4	-0.3
Mobile, Ala.	--	-0.1	--	0.1	0	0.3	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	0.3	--	0	0	0	--	--
New York, N. Y.	0.7	0.4	3.5	-0.6	0	-1.3	0.3	0.5
Norfolk, Va.	--	-0.6	--	0	0	0	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.3	1.0	1.2	0	0	0	1.3	1.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.2	0.7	-2.0	0.1	0.2	0	0.6	0.4
Portland, Maine	--	0.8	--	-0.1	-0.2	0	--	--
Portland, Ore.	--	0.8	--	0.5	-0.2	0.8	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	-0.7	--	0	0	0	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	0.2	0.2	0.7	0	0	0	1.1	0.2
San Francisco, Calif.	0.1	0.4	-0.9	-5.0	-6.5	0	-0.6	0.6
Savannah, Ga.	0.2	-0.6	2.5	0.1	0	0.2	3.5	-0.2
Scranton, Pa.	--	2.2	--	0	0	0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	0.4	-0.3	1.1	0.4	0	0.7	2.4	1.5
Washington, D. C.	0.7	0.2	3.6	0	0	0	0.3	0.2

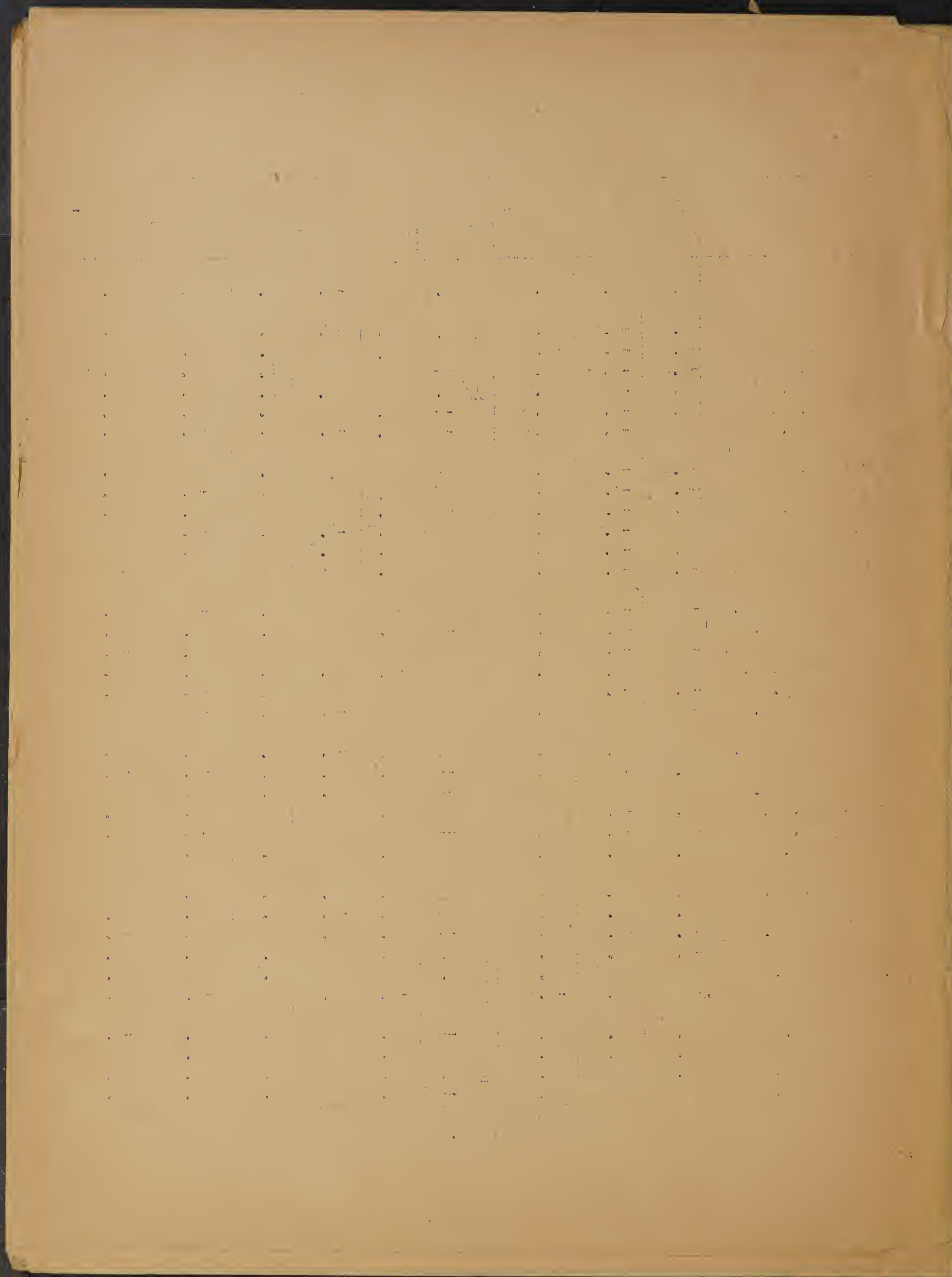
* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

TABLE 5A - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM DECEMBER 1945 TO MARCH 1946

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	0.2	-0.9	2.5	0.1	0.2	-1.2	1.3	1.3	0.9
Atlanta, Ga.	0.2	-2.8	3.3	<u>1/</u> 0.5	0.4	-1.0	1.1	4.9	1.7
Baltimore, Md.	-0.3	-0.7	-0.7	<u>1/</u> 0	0.5	0	0.7	1.0	0
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.2	-1.7	1.1	--	0.7	0	0.9	0.1	0.9
Boston, Mass.	0.6	-0.3	3.7	<u>1/</u> 0.1	0.9	-2.7	2.6	0.3	1.0
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.3	-0.9	1.5	--	0.5	0	0.7	1.8	1.6
Chicago, Ill.	0	-0.4	3.0	--	-2.6	-7.3	1.1	-1.2	0.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.1	-1.3	1.5	<u>1/</u> 0.4	0.6	0	1.0	0	0.9
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.5	-1.5	0.8	<u>1/</u> 0	0.4	0	0.8	-1.6	0.2
Denver, Colo.	0.5	-1.3	6.9	--	0.5	0	0.7	3.6	0.1
Detroit, Mich.	0.7	-0.9	1.4	--	0.3	-2.2	1.6	-0.9	4.2
Houston, Texas	0.2	-1.1	3.7	<u>1/</u> 0	0.6	0.9	0	0.1	0.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	-0.3	-1.2	2.2	--	0.7	0	0.9	0	-0.7
Jacksonville, Fla.	-0.9	-2.8	1.6	<u>1/</u> -0.2	-0.3	0	-0.4	-0.4	-0.1
Kansas City, Mo.	-0.2	-1.3	-0.1	--	1.5	0	2.6	2.8	0.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	-0.4	-1.3	0.7	--	0	0	0	0.4	-0.1
Manchester, N. H.	0	-0.7	1.1	<u>1/</u> 0.4	-0.7	-3.8	2.6	1.6	0.2
Memphis, Tenn.	-0.6	-2.0	0.6	<u>1/</u> -0.1	0.7	0	0.8	-2.4	0.3
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-0.1	-1.9	4.9	--	0.2	-0.9	0.8	-0.1	0
Minneapolis, Minn.	0	-2.4	5.7	<u>1/</u> 0.3	0.8	-0.5	1.2	1.0	0.2
Mobile, Ala.	0.2	-0.8	4.5	--	0.7	0.2	1.1	-0.7	-0.2
New Orleans, La.	0.8	-0.8	3.4	--	0.2	0.3	0.2	3.2	3.4
New York, N. Y.	0.8	-0.7	6.4	--	0.1	0	0.1	2.7	1.2
Norfolk, Va.	-0.1	-0.5	0.2	--	0.3	0	0.6	-1.3	0.4
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.6	0.2	0.9	<u>1/</u> 0.3	1.1	0	1.5	2.1	1.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.2	0.8	-2.9	0	0.6	0.2	1.2	1.7	0.9
Portland, Maine	0.3	-0.3	1.6	--	1.9	-0.1	2.6	0.8	0.4
Portland, Oreg.	-1.0	-2.6	0.8	--	0.6	-0.1	0.9	3.7	-0.9
Richmond, Va.	-0.3	-1.5	0.1	<u>1/</u> -0.1	0.5	0	0.6	1.6	0.8
St. Louis, Mo.	0	-1.0	1.7	<u>1/</u> 0.3	1.0	0	1.7	3.6	0.3
San Francisco, Calif.	-1.6	-3.8	-0.1	<u>1/</u> 0	-5.0	-6.5	0	-2.0	0.7
Savannah, Ga.	0.7	0.2	3.6	--	0.4	0	0.6	4.5	-0.2
Scranton, Pa.	0.4	0.4	0.3	--	0.7	0	0.9	1.2	1.0
Seattle, Wash.	-0.4	-2.7	0.9	<u>1/</u> 0.1	0.9	0	1.4	3.9	1.7
Washington, D. C.	1.0	0.3	3.3	--	0.5	0	0.9	1.7	1.1

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

1/ Change from September 1945.



For Release
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P. M. Papers

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D.C.

MAR 8, 1946

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX* AND RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD - DECEMBER 1945

Retail prices of goods and services commonly bought by moderate-income city workers advanced 0.5 percent between mid-November and mid-December to bring the consumers' price index to its highest level since the spring of 1921. Higher prices for all principal groups of items in the family budget, except rent, contributed to this rise, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor. The consumers' price index published by the Bureau for December 15, 1945 was 129.9 percent of the 1935-39 average, and 31.7 percent higher than in August 1939, the month preceding the outbreak of the war in Europe.

For December, food costs in large cities rose 0.9 percent as higher prices were reported for all groups except beverages. Prices of fresh fruits and vegetables increased 3.6 percent due to advances for apples, oranges, cabbage, lettuce, onions, potatoes, spinach, and sweetpotatoes. The largest increases were 21 percent for sweetpotatoes, which went up under higher winter ceiling prices and small supplies; and cabbage and spinach up seasonally by 14 and 11 percent, respectively. After price controls were removed, orange prices, which usually drop during this time of the year, increased 4.5 percent in December. Prices of butter and peanut butter increased further by 0.6 and 5.8 percent, respectively, between November 13 and December 11, reflecting primarily the withdrawal of subsidies for these products on November 1.

Average costs of clothing advanced for the thirtieth consecutive month and were 0.5 percent higher in mid-December than in mid-November. Retailers again reported that demand for men's apparel far outstripped the quantities obtainable. Further disappearance of low and medium-priced clothing was reflected in higher costs for topcoats, wool suits, dress trousers, jackets, sweaters, work clothing, business shirts, pajamas, underwear, and socks. Prices of heavy weight union suits were higher due to increases allowed by OPA to encourage production. Larger supplies of preticketed garments resulted in somewhat lower prices for women's rayon crepe dresses, while the cost of moderate price rayon prints and inexpensive cotton wash frocks advanced slightly. Prices of rayon slips, gloves, and girls' coats also rose. Prices of footwear edged upward and costs of shoe repair services increased moderately in six cities.

Prices of housefurnishings increased 0.5 percent over the month. Higher prices were reported for living room, dining room, and bedroom furniture, sofa beds, cook stoves, dinnerware, blankets, sheets, and towels. Miscellaneous goods and services costs rose 0.2 percent as costs of medical care increased slightly in 20 cities; newspaper prices increased in St. Louis, and higher prices were reported for cigars and pipe tobacco in a number of cities.

With war veterans returning from overseas, housing conditions in most large cities are more critical than at any time during the war. Rents for occupied dwellings have remained stable on the average, however, since the last rent survey. Slight increases were reported in six cities while rents decreased in eight cities surveyed. Between June and December rents declined 0.9 percent in Mobile and 0.3 percent in Savannah and Portland, Oregon, where there were large cutbacks in war production. In Scranton, where rents remained stable without rent control during the war, there has been a gradual rise during the past year, resulting in a total increase of 1.2 percent, the largest reported during the year for any of the large cities.

Page 1a
December 1945

Anthracite and bituminous coal price ceilings were raised by OPA to meet the minimum profit margins previously assured producers. In December, anthracite prices were the highest since the first quarter of 1926, while those of bituminous coal were at the highest levels since 1923. A rebate was allowed consumers of gas in Detroit.

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May 1, 1946

Wednesday P.M. Papers

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

THE

MAY 1 3 1946

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX* AND RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD - MARCH 1946

Consumers' Prices Reach New Postwar Peak

Average retail prices reached a new postwar peak in mid-March according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor in a report issued today. With higher prices for most principal items in the family budget, the consumers' price index advanced 0.5 percent between February 15 and March 15 to 130.2 percent of the 1935-39 average.

The consumers' price index is now 32.0 percent higher than in August 1939, the month before the beginning of the war.

The food bill for moderate-income city families rose 0.4 percent during the month after having dropped 1.3 percent between mid-December and mid-February. The average price of sugar increased almost 5 percent following early February ceiling price adjustments by OPA to insure the continuation of large imports. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices rose 1.7 percent as higher prices were reported for cabbage, lettuce, onions, and potatoes. Spinach dropped seasonally 14 percent. Cheese and peanut butter prices continued to edge upward by 2.3 and 1.4 percent, respectively.

Clothing costs increased 1.7 percent between mid-February and mid-March and are now 52.6 percent higher than in August 1939. Supplies of medium and inexpensive quality apparel continued low, although retailers in most cities indicated that they had received some shipments of preticketed garments during the month. Higher clothing costs were reported for men's wool suits, work clothing, business shirts, pajamas, and socks. Rayon and cotton dresses, manufactured under the government's program to increase stocks of lower priced garments, appeared in sufficient quantities in some cities to lower the cost of these articles. However, percale housedresses, cotton nightgowns, and women's underwear costs were higher in mid-March than in mid-February. Hosiery and gloves also cost more this spring, due to the replacement of women's rayon stockings by nylon hosiery whenever obtainable, and the continued disappearance of lower priced gloves. A moderate but widespread advance also occurred in shoe prices.

Residential rents increased 0.1 percent during the first quarter of 1946, the first increase since December 1944. Rents edged upward in eight of the 16 cities surveyed in March decreased slightly in 3 cities, and showed no change in the remainder. The largest change in rental bills occurred in Atlanta where an increase of 0.5 percent was reported between September 1945 and March 1946.

Page 1a
March 1946

Rate reductions lowered the average cost of gas to domestic consumers in San Francisco and of electricity to consumers in Boston, Chicago, and Manchester.

The cost of miscellaneous goods and services increased 0.2 percent. Medical care costs, particularly hospital rates, advanced in 18 cities. Upward adjustments in maximum charges resulted in increased prices for laundry services in Buffalo, Richmond, and Philadelphia. Charges for motion picture admissions, hair cuts and beauty shop services were higher in a few cities. Newspaper prices advanced in Seattle.

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For release

May 24, 1946

Friday, P.M. Papers

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D.C.

Mann - 659

CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX* AND RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD - APRIL 1946

Consumers' Prices Advance 0.5 Percent

For the second consecutive month, retail prices of goods and services for moderate-income city families rose 0.5 percent as higher prices in all important groups of items except electricity were reported in mid-April. The consumers' price index, prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, is 130.9 percent of the 1935-39 average and 3.0 percent above the level of a year ago. Food, clothing, and housefurnishings costs, which represent 57 percent of the budget for wage-earners and moderate-income workers in large cities, are now a little over 50 percent higher than in August 1939, the month before war in Europe.

Food prices increased 1.1 percent between mid-March and mid-April. Higher prices in all major groups, except eggs and beverages, contributed to this rise. The cost of cereal and bakery products advanced 2.7 percent as the 10 percent reduction in the weight of loaves requested on March 15 by the President's Famine Emergency Committee resulted in a 4.8 percent increase in the average price per pound for breads. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices rose 1.8 percent, with prices of onions, potatoes, cabbage, and sweet potatoes increasing seasonally more than 4 percent; lettuce and spinach declined 5 and 6 percent, respectively.

The average price of meats increased 1.1 percent during the month as OPA allowed higher ceiling prices to compensate for wage adjustments. This represents the largest monthly increase in this group since early in 1943. Chicken prices rose sharply (6 percent) between mid-March and mid-April. Sugar increased 2.5 percent.

Clothing costs advanced 0.8 percent between March and April, reflecting both the government's policy of granting price increases to manufacturers to encourage production and, to a lesser extent, the return of some items of prewar quality at prices higher than when they were last available. Higher prices were reported for men's topcoats, wool suits, business shirts, work clothing, and socks, and for women's cotton house and street dresses, hose and gloves. Retailers' inventories of men's apparel continued low, but some improvement over previous months was reported by individual merchants. The cost of rayon dresses declined over the month as substantial shipments of garments manufactured under the government's program to increase stocks of lower-priced apparel reached retail stores. Increased costs of materials continued to force prices upward for cotton products. Cotton clothing is now 84 percent higher than in August 1939, wool clothing costs have risen 48 percent, and silk, rayon and nylon apparel 45 percent. Men's shoe prices advanced as shoes of prewar quality became available at higher prices.

Housefurnishings costs rose 0.7 percent over the month. Prices for sheets advanced more than 6 percent due to an increase in ceiling prices and the further disappearance of lower-priced sheets. Prices for stoves and bedroom furniture also increased.

The average cost of miscellaneous goods and services edged upward 0.1 percent on scattered increases for beauty shop services, tobacco, household supplies, newspapers, and motion picture admissions. Since August 1939 the cost of services has increased about 20 percent.

The cost of electricity to consumers in Minneapolis, Norfolk, Richmond, San Francisco, and Savannah was lowered from 4 to 10 percent by rate reductions between March 15 and April 15.

Rents were not surveyed in April.

(end)

*NOTE: The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose incomes average \$1524 in 1934-36.

The index only partially shows the wartime effects of changes in quality, availability of consumer goods, etc. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the index for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If small cities were included in the national average, another 1/2 point would be added. If account is also taken of continued deterioration of quality and disappearance of low-priced merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, the over-all adjustment for the period January 1941 to September 1945 would total approximately 5 points. As merchandise of prewar quality and specifications comes back into the markets and the Bureau is able regularly to price it again, this adjustment factor will gradually decrease and finally disappear.

General Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1 (the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board), by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

GMPR - The General Maximum Price Regulation became effective on May 18, 1942. It established retail price ceilings at their highest levels in March 1942.

The President's "hold-the-line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is therefore used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

	Apr. 1946	Mar. 1946	Apr. 1945	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
Group	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	130.9	130.2	127.1	125.1	116.0	100.8	98.6
Food	141.7	140.1	136.6	143.0	121.6	97.6	93.5
Clothing	154.3	153.1	144.1	127.9	126.2	101.2	100.3
Rent	--	108.4	--	108.0	109.9	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	110.4	110.5	109.8	107.6	104.9	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.6	92.9	95.5	96.1	96.6	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	127.7	127.7	123.7	118.7	112.9	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	151.3	150.2	144.9	125.1	122.2	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	126.0	125.9	123.8	115.3	110.9	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to April, 1946

ALL ITEMS	--	0.5	3.0	4.6	12.8	29.9	32.8
Food	--	1.1	3.7	- 0.9	16.5	45.2	51.6
Clothing	--	0.8	7.1	20.6	22.3	52.5	53.8
Rent <u>1/</u>	--	--	--	0.4	- 1.4	3.2	3.9
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	-0.1	0.5	2.6	5.2	9.5	13.2
Gas & electricity	--	-0.3	-3.0	- 3.6	- 4.1	- 5.0	- 6.5
Other fuels & ice	--	0	3.2	7.6	13.1	22.8	32.6
Housefurnishings	--	0.7	4.4	20.9	23.8	51.0	50.4
Miscellaneous	--	0.1	1.8	9.3	13.6	23.8	25.5

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Percent change to March 1946.

TABLE 2 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Apr. 16 1946	Mar. 12 1946	Apr. 17 1945	May 18 1943	May 12 1942	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GMFR *	"Little Steel" * 2/	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL FOODS	141.7	140.1	136.6	143.0	121.6	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	113.3	110.3	108.9	107.6	105.2	94.9	93.4
Meats	132.8	131.3	130.8	138.3	124.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	119.8	118.3	118.6	131.2	124.1	109.4	99.6
Pork	113.7	112.8	112.4	125.5	123.2	86.1	88.0
Lamb	136.1	137.0	135.9	141.6	118.2	98.7	98.8
Chickens	159.3	150.2	154.3	147.6	113.4	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	221.3	227.7	211.9	200.5	150.9	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	137.4	137.0	133.5	136.9	123.3	105.1	93.1
Eggs	137.7	139.0	139.9	142.1	115.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	185.9	183.4	173.3	190.8	128.7	93.3	92.4
Fresh	199.8	196.3	183.3	205.8	130.0	93.4	92.8
Canned	128.7	129.6	130.0	131.1	122.7	91.4	91.6
Dried	169.5	168.9	167.9	155.0	131.2	99.6	90.3
Beverages	124.9	124.9	124.6	124.5	124.6	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	126.1	125.9	123.8	126.3	122.4	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	135.3	132.4	126.4	127.6	127.1	95.3	95.6

Percent Change to April 16, 1946

ALL FOODS	--	1.1	3.7	- 0.9	16.5	44.9	51.6
Cereals & bakery products	--	2.7	4.0	5.3	7.7	19.4	21.3
Meats	--	1.1	1.5	- 4.0	6.8	31.4	38.8
Beef & veal	--	1.3	1.0	- 8.7	- 3.5	9.5	20.3
Pork	--	0.8	1.2	- 9.4	- 7.7	32.1	29.2
Lamb	--	0.8	1.6	- 2.5	16.8	39.9	39.8
Chickens	--	6.1	3.2	7.9	40.5	63.9	68.4
Fish, fresh & canned	--	-2.8	4.4	10.4	46.7	86.4	122.2
Dairy products	--	0.3	2.9	0.4	11.4	30.7	47.6
Eggs	--	-0.9	-1.6	- 3.1	19.3	41.4	51.8
Fruits & vegetables	--	1.4	7.3	- 2.6	44.4	99.2	101.2
Fresh	--	1.8	9.0	- 2.9	53.7	113.9	115.3
Canned	--	-0.7	-1.0	- 1.8	4.9	40.8	40.5
Dried	--	0.4	1.0	7.3	29.2	70.2	87.7
Beverages	--	0	0.2	0.3	0.2	37.4	31.6
Fats & oils	--	0.2	1.9	- 0.2	3.0	57.0	49.2
Sugar & sweets	--	2.2	7.0	6.0	6.5	42.0	41.5

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO APRIL 1946
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	March 1946	April 1945	May 1943	May 1942	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	GNPR *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	0.5	3.0	4.6	12.8	29.9	32.8
Baltimore, Md.	0.9	2.5	4.0	12.8	32.4	35.1
Birmingham, Ala.	0.2	1.9	6.1	12.5	31.4	35.5
Boston, Mass.	0.6	2.8	3.4	11.5	27.5	30.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.8	3.2	1.9	8.9	28.8	33.2
Chicago, Ill.	1.2	2.4	4.0	11.2	28.0	31.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.3	2.2	4.8	12.0	30.3	33.4
Cleveland, Ohio	0.6	1.6	3.5	11.5	29.9	32.5
Denver, Colo.	0.3	2.2	3.9	11.9	29.3	31.1
Detroit, Mich.	0.9	4.4	4.8	12.3	32.1	35.4
Houston, Tex.	0.1	1.7	2.7	9.9	25.2	26.8
Kansas City, Mo.	0.2	1.8	4.4	12.1	30.0	29.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.2	2.6	6.0	13.0	30.1	32.7
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.3	2.7	3.9	9.1	24.3	26.9
New York, N. Y.	1.0	4.8	7.5	17.3	32.2	34.8
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.2	2.9	3.9	13.1	30.7	32.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.5	2.9	5.5	13.8	30.2	33.9
St. Louis, Mo.	0.5	3.0	4.1	11.7	27.8	31.6
San Francisco, Calif.	0.3	0.9	4.6	13.9	31.6	34.9
Savannah, Ga.	0.3	2.9	5.5	15.1	37.2	40.1
Seattle, Wash.	0.2	2.4	3.9	11.0	31.7	34.1
Washington, D. C.	0.3	4.1	6.4	14.7	31.7	33.5

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, APRIL 1946

(Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- lane- ous
				Total	Gas & Elec- tricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	130.9	141.7	154.3	110.4	92.6	127.7	151.3	126.0
Atlanta, Ga.	--	140.8	--	112.9	82.7	140.8	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	133.3	149.4	158.0	112.1	96.5	124.6	150.6	123.5
Birmingham, Ala.	133.5	142.0	150.6	108.3	79.6	129.8	142.3	128.9
Boston, Mass.	126.4	135.9	150.1	113.2	102.3	126.9	146.4	120.6
Buffalo, N. Y.	131.2	138.8	153.7	108.9	94.9	121.4	150.8	128.4
Chicago, Ill.	129.5	141.9	148.0	103.9	86.3	122.2	138.5	121.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	129.8	137.9	153.0	108.4	90.8	125.2	146.3	127.5
Cleveland, Ohio	132.5	144.5	149.8	114.4	104.9	123.7	145.4	124.3
Denver, Colo.	129.3	140.5	148.0	97.9	77.3	122.4	171.8	124.7
Detroit, Mich.	133.4	140.1	152.4	111.9	84.1	133.0	157.2	136.8
Houston, Texas	127.7	139.7	145.6	88.7	81.8	107.2	147.0	125.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	137.7	--	114.7	91.5	128.1	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	148.0	--	117.7	92.8	139.4	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	127.9	134.0	143.2	114.4	95.3	131.8	146.4	127.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	133.4	149.0	149.1	92.5	91.0	99.8	145.3	129.8
Manchester, N. H.	--	137.8	--	121.8	95.8	134.8	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	149.8	--	107.3	77.0	124.1	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	138.3	--	111.8	95.0	123.3	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	126.5	133.0	152.7	103.1	78.9	119.0	149.1	123.6
Mobile, Ala.	--	148.6	--	104.2	83.8	120.4	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	153.6	--	103.0	77.2	129.8	--	--
New York, N. Y.	133.5	144.5	169.7	113.8	95.0	142.9	148.3	128.4
Norfolk, Va.	--	147.2	--	118.6	94.9	137.4	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	129.7	139.6	152.0	114.9	92.5	131.9	152.1	121.9
Pittsburgh, Pa.	131.8	142.5	171.7	112.8	103.3	129.3	149.1	120.9
Portland, Maine	--	135.4	--	115.8	98.7	124.6	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	151.5	--	121.4	87.9	162.2	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	136.7	--	108.3	94.2	116.9	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	129.1	143.4	150.0	109.4	99.6	118.1	133.2	122.9
San Francisco, Calif.	134.0	149.3	147.3	85.9	77.7	113.2	129.5	134.8
Savannah, Ga.	139.1	155.7	154.6	112.4	91.2	125.4	168.6	131.2
Scranton, Pa.	--	143.3	--	119.5	91.8	136.4	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	134.5	146.3	150.5	105.8	83.9	124.0	151.2	135.3
Washington, D. C.	131.6	142.2	172.1	112.1	94.4	123.9	146.6	131.0

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM MARCH, 1946 TO APRIL, 1946

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- lane- ous
				Total	Gas & Elec- tricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	0.5	1.1	0.8	-0.1	-0.3	0.0	0.7	0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	--	2.3	--	-0.1	0	0	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	0.9	1.6	1.7	0	0	0	0.3	0.2
Birmingham, Ala.	0.2	-0.6	2.1	0	0	0	0.6	0.2
Boston, Mass.	0.6	1.3	-0.3	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.8	0.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.8	1.8	1.1	0	0	0	0.2	0
Chicago, Ill.	1.2	2.3	1.0	0	0	0.1	0.4	0.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.3	0.7	0	0.1	0	0.2	0	-0.1
Cleveland, Ohio	0.6	1.3	0.8	0	0	0	0.5	0.2
Denver, Colo.	0.3	0.4	1.0	0.1	0	0.3	0.6	-0.1
Detroit, Mich.	0.9	2.3	0.7	0	0.1	0	0.4	-0.1
Houston, Texas	0.1	0.3	0	0	0	0	0.3	-0.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	1.2	--	0	0	0	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	1.0	--	0	0	0	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.1	0	0.2	0.2	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.2	0.1	0.8	0	0	0	0.7	0.3
Manchester, N. H.	--	1.0	--	0.3	0.2	0.4	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	0.7	--	0	0	0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	1.3	--	0	0	0	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.3	0.9	0.4	-1.9	-5.6	-0.2	0.3	0
Mobile, Ala.	--	0.6	--	0	0	0	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	1.4	--	0	0	0	--	--
New York, N. Y.	1.0	1.5	1.5	0	0	0.1	2.4	0
Norfolk, Va.	--	1.9	--	-1.9	-5.2	0	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.2	0.4	0.3	-0.1	0	-0.2	0.8	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.5	0.8	0.8	0	0.1	0	1.6	0
Portland, Maine	--	0.4	--	0	0	0	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	1.1	--	0.2	0	0.2	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	0.1	--	-1.6	-4.8	0	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	0.5	0.6	2.2	0	0	0	0.2	-0.1
San Francisco, Calif.	0.3	0.7	0.3	-2.7	-3.6	0	0.1	0.1
Savannah, Ga.	0.3	0.6	0.4	-0.6	-2.1	0	0.5	0.1
Scranton, Pa.	--	1.1	--	0	0	0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.2	0	0.2	-0.7	0.1
Washington, D. C.	0.3	0.6	0.5	0	0	0	-0.7	0.2

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

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Bureau of Labor Statistics
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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX* AND RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD - MAY 1946

Consumers' Prices Advance 0.5 Percent for Third Consecutive Month

Prices of living essentials for moderate-income families in large cities continued to rise during the month ending May 15, 1946, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor. Higher prices for food, clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services contributed to the 0.5 percent increase, which brought the May 15 consumers' price index to 131.5 percent of the 1935-39 average. Consumers' prices are now one-third higher than at the outset of the Second World War in 1939; from the beginning of the First World War to the high point of 1920 retail prices more than doubled.

Since the end of the war in Japan in August 1945, consumers' prices have increased 1.7 percent, with clothing and housefurnishings costs advancing 6.1 and 4.4 percent, respectively, while food prices have gone up 1.2 percent. Nearly all of this rise has occurred since mid-February 1946.

Retail prices of goods and services used by city families are now 5.1 percent above the level of May 1943 when the President's "hold-the-line" order became effective. Food prices in May 1946 are at about the same level as in May 1943; clothing and housefurnishings costs, however, are almost 22 percent higher. Effects of the recently announced higher ceiling prices for a number of dairy, bakery, and cereal products will not be reflected in the index until June and July.

Meats, butter, oleomargarine, shortening, bread, and some canned foods were scarce in most large cities in the United States in May. These scarcities made it impossible to obtain the usual number of food price quotations for the consumers' price index. With these scarcities there have been more reports of increased sales through black markets which are not reflected in price reports to the Bureau.

The shortages of meat were so acute that in a few cities none of the independent stores from which the Bureau regularly collects prices had any of the standard list of meat products during the pricing period. Under these conditions the usual method of computing average prices could not be used. In order that indexes for food prices as a whole and for all commodities in combination might be published, it was assumed that meat prices were unchanged between April and May in five cities. Provision has been made to reflect changes in meat prices in these cities between April and June if meat is available then.

For the month of May this lack of meat prices has not affected the total index seriously and the national average increase of 0.5 percent for meat prices is a significant figure. Shortages of other products were not sufficiently acute to produce the same kind of pricing problem that was experienced in meats. Thus, the Bureau is reasonably confident in reporting that food prices as a whole advanced about 0.6 percent over April, though a more complete coverage of stores would probably have given a slightly higher figure for meat and, hence, for all foods.

Fresh fish prices dropped 1.6 percent with seasonally larger supplies of lower priced varieties reaching most markets. There were further increases in the cost of bread in May, when additional cities authorized weight reductions in line with the nation's program to conserve grains. Rye bread prices advanced 16 percent as new

(over)

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May 1946

ceilings were established. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices declined 0.1 percent as lower prices for green beans, cabbage, lettuce, onions and spinach offset higher prices for apples, oranges, carrots, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes.

Clothing prices rose 0.7 percent between April and May, mainly due to higher prices which were reported for apparel which was produced under rent orders to encourage production. Prices of housefurnishings increased 0.7 percent between April 15 and May 15, as higher prices allowed to manufacturers for wool rugs and mattresses were passed on to consumers.

Gas and electricity costs continued to decrease and now cost 7 percent less on the average than in August 1939. Rate reductions in April and early May lowered the average cost of electricity to consumers in St. Louis, while gas costs declined 7 percent in Chicago, as lower rates became effective on May 1. The usual seasonal decrease in New York City gas rates was reflected in May bills.

Rents were not surveyed in May.

(end)

*NOTE: The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose incomes average \$1524 in 1934-36.

The index only partially shows the wartime effects of changes in quality, availability of consumer goods, etc. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the index for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If small cities were included in the national average, another 1/2 point would be added. If account is also taken of continued deterioration of quality and disappearance of low-priced merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, the over-all adjustment for the period January 1941 to September 1945 would total approximately 5 points. As merchandise of prewar quality and specifications comes back into the markets and the Bureau is able regularly to price it again, this adjustment factor will gradually decrease and finally disappear.

General Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 3, which have been estimated for January 1 (the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board), by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

The President's "hold-the-line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is therefore used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	May 1946	April 1946	May 1945	Aug. 1945	May 1943	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	"Hold the Line" *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL ITEMS	131.5	130.9	128.1	129.3	125.1	100.8	98.6
Food	142.6	141.7	138.8	140.9	143.0	97.6	93.5
Clothing	155.4	154.3	144.6	146.4	127.9	101.2	100.3
Rent	--	--	--	--	108.0	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	110.3	110.4	110.0	111.4	107.6	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.2	92.6	95.2	95.2	96.1	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	127.8	127.7	124.4	127.2	118.7	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	152.4	151.3	145.4	146.0	125.1	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	126.3	126.0	123.9	124.5	115.3	101.8	100.4
Percent Change to May 1946							
ALL ITEMS	--	0.5	2.7	1.7	5.1	30.5	33.4
Food	--	0.6	2.7	1.2	-0.3	46.1	52.5
Clothing	--	0.7	7.5	6.1	21.5	53.6	54.9
Rent 1/	--	--	--	--	0.4	3.2	3.9
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	-0.1	0.3	-1.0	2.5	9.4	13.1
Gas & electricity	--	-0.4	-3.2	-3.2	-4.1	-5.4	-6.9
Other fuels & ice	--	0.1	2.7	0.5	7.7	22.9	32.7
Housefurnishings	--	0.7	4.8	4.4	21.8	52.1	51.5
Miscellaneous	--	0.2	1.9	1.4	9.5	24.1	25.8

* See general explanation of tables on page 2
1/ Percent change to March 1946

TABLE 2 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

	May 14 1946	Apr. 16 1946	May 15 1945	Aug. 15 1945	May 18 1943	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
Group	This Month, 1/	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	"Hold the Line" *	"Little Steel" * 2/	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

ALL FOODS	142.6	141.7	138.8	140.9	143.0	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	115.2	113.3	109.0	109.1	107.6	94.9	93.4
Meats 3/	133.4	132.8	131.6	131.8	138.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	120.7	119.8	118.6	118.5	131.2	109.4	99.6
Pork	114.0	113.7	112.5	112.6	125.5	86.1	88.0
Lamb	138.7	138.1	135.9	136.4	141.6	98.7	98.8
Chickens	161.5	159.3	156.3	157.3	147.6	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	218.3	221.3	218.7	217.8	200.5	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	138.6	137.4	133.5	133.4	136.9	105.1	93.1
Eggs	140.3	137.7	140.7	171.4	142.1	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	185.7	185.9	182.5	183.5	190.8	93.3	92.4
Fresh	199.6	199.8	195.0	196.2	205.8	93.4	92.8
Canned	127.8	128.7	130.2	130.3	131.1	91.4	91.6
Dried	171.9	169.5	168.5	168.6	158.0	99.6	90.3
Beverages	125.4	125.1 R/	124.6	124.7	124.5	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	126.1	126.1	123.9	124.0	126.3	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	135.9	135.3	126.5	126.6	127.6	95.3	95.6

Percent Change to May 14, 1946

ALL FOODS	-	0.6	2.7	1.2	- 0.3	45.8	52.5
Cereals & bakery products	-	1.7	5.7	5.6	7.1	21.4	23.3
Meats 3/	-	0.5	1.4	- 1.2	- 3.5	31.9	39.4
Beef & veal	-	0.8	1.8	1.9	- 8.0	10.3	21.2
Pork	-	0.3	1.3	1.2	- 9.2	32.4	29.5
Lamb	-	0.4	2.1	1.7	- 2.0	40.5	40.4
Chickens	-	1.4	3.3	2.7	9.4	66.2	70.7
Fish, fresh & canned	-	- 1.4	- 0.2	0.2	8.9	83.9	119.2
Dairy products	-	0.9	3.8	3.9	1.2	31.9	48.9
Eggs	-	1.9	- 0.3	-18.1	- 1.3	44.0	54.7
Fruits & vegetables	-	- 0.1	1.8	1.2	- 2.7	99.0	101.0
Fresh	-	- 0.1	2.4	1.7	- 3.0	113.7	115.1
Canned	-	- 0.7	- 1.8	- 1.9	- 2.5	39.8	39.5
Dried	-	1.4	2.0	2.0	8.8	72.6	90.4
Beverages	-	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.7	38.0	32.1
Fats & oils	-	0	1.8	1.7	- 0.2	57.0	49.2
Sugar & sweets	-	0.4	7.4	7.3	6.5	42.6	42.2

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

R/ Revised.

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

3/ Meat price indexes for May based on data from 51 cities. The following cities were not included because of inadequate supplies: Atlanta, Peoria, Providence, Savannah, and Winston-Salem.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO MAY 1946
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	April 1946	May 1945	Aug. 1945	May 1943	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	"Hold the Line" *	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	0.5	2.7	1.7	5.1	30.5	33.4
Baltimore, Md.	0.2	2.0	0.8	4.2	32.7	35.4
Birmingham, Ala.	0.5	2.1	0.2	6.7	32.1	36.2
Boston, Mass.	0.0	2.0	0.6	3.4	27.5	30.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.2	2.9	1.6	2.1	29.0	33.5
Chicago, Ill.	0.2	1.4	1.4	4.2	28.2	31.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.6	2.0	1.0	5.5	31.1	34.2
Cleveland, Ohio	0.8	1.4	1.1	4.3	30.9	33.5
Denver, Colo.	0.5	1.2	1.7	4.4	29.9	31.7
Detroit, Mich.	0.5	3.9	2.2	5.3	32.8	36.1
Houston, Tex.	0.2	1.4	0.5	2.9	25.5	27.1
Kansas City, Mo.	0.4	1.7	0.6	4.8	30.5	30.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.6	3.0	2.4	6.7	30.9	33.5
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.7	2.8	2.0	4.6	25.1	27.8
New York, N. Y.	0.5	4.4	3.2	8.1	32.9	35.6
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.6	2.5	1.6	4.6	31.6	33.4
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.2	2.5	1.5	5.8	30.5	34.2
St. Louis, Mo.	0.3	2.5	1.6	4.4	28.2	32.0
San Francisco, Calif.	0.6	2.2	1.7	5.2	32.4	35.8
Savannah, Ga.	0.0	2.4	0.6	5.5	37.2	40.1
Seattle, Wash.	0.5	2.3	1.7	4.4	32.4	34.8
Washington, D. C.	-0.2	2.9	1.9	6.1	31.4	33.2

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, MAY 1946

(Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0)

City				Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- lane- ous
	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Total	Gas & Elec- tricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	131.5	142.6	155.4	110.3	92.2	127.8	152.4	126.3
Atlanta, Ga.	--	140.2 ^{1/}	--	112.9	82.7	140.8	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	133.6	149.3	159.8	112.1	96.5	124.6	155.4	123.3
Birmingham, Ala.	134.2	144.0	151.7	108.3	79.6	129.8	145.2	128.5
Boston, Mass.	126.4	135.1	152.6	118.2	102.4	126.9	147.2	120.7
Buffalo, N. Y.	131.5	139.0	154.7	108.9	94.9	121.4	150.4	129.0
Chicago, Ill.	129.7	141.9	149.7	102.5	83.5	122.3	139.6	122.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	130.6	139.1	153.9	108.4	90.8	125.3	148.2	128.4
Cleveland, Ohio	133.5	146.2	149.9	114.4	104.9	123.7	144.9	125.8
Denver, Colo.	129.9	141.7	149.2	97.9	77.3	122.4	172.7	124.8
Detroit, Mich.	134.1	141.6	152.7	111.9	84.1	133.0	158.1	137.3
Houston, Texas	128.0	139.7	146.9	88.7	81.8	107.2	147.9	125.5
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	138.6	--	114.7	91.5	128.1	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	147.3	--	117.7	92.8	139.4	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	128.4	134.9	148.7	114.4	95.3	131.8	148.0	127.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	134.2	150.7	150.4	92.5	91.0	99.8	146.8	129.8
Manchester, N. H.	--	139.2	--	121.9	96.0	134.8	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	151.7	--	107.3	77.0	124.1	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	140.8	--	111.9	95.0	123.4	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	127.4	134.9	153.7	103.6	78.9	119.8	150.4	124.0
Mobile, Ala.	--	148.3	--	104.3	83.8	120.4	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	153.8	--	102.9	77.1	129.8	--	--
New York, N. Y.	134.2	145.9	170.6	113.6	94.6	112.9	149.6	128.6
Norfolk, Va.	--	146.4	--	118.6	94.9	137.4	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	130.5	141.0	152.9	114.9	92.5	132.0	152.8	122.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	132.1	142.8	172.6	112.8	103.1	129.3	150.1	121.3
Portland, Maine	--	135.4	--	115.8	98.7	124.6	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	153.2	--	121.4	87.9	162.2	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	137.3	--	108.3	94.2	116.9	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	129.5	144.5	151.0	108.3	97.2	118.1	132.6	123.0
San Francisco, Calif.	134.8	150.4	149.6	85.9	77.7	113.2	131.4	134.9
Savannah, Ga.	139.1	155.8 ^{1/}	153.0	112.4	91.2	125.4	170.6	131.7
Scranton, Pa.	--	143.8	--	119.5	91.8	136.4	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	135.2	147.1	153.1	105.8	83.9	124.0	151.0	135.7
Washington, D. C.	131.3	141.1	171.9	112.2	94.4	123.9	147.3	131.1

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

^{1/} April meat prices used in computation of May food price index due to extensive shortages of meat in May. Increases subsequent to April will be fully reflected in the index as soon as supplies improve.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM APRIL, 1946 TO MAY, 1946

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House furnish- ings	Miscel- lane- ous
				Total	Gas & Elec- tricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	0.5	0.6	0.7	-0.1	-0.4	0.1	0.7	0.2
Atlanta, Ga.	--	-0.4 ^{1/}	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	0.2	-0.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	-0.2
Birmingham, Ala.	0.5	1.2 ^{2/}	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	-0.3
Boston, Mass.	0.0	-0.6	1.7	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.3	0.5
Chicago, Ill.	0.2	0.0	1.1	-1.3	-3.2	0.1	0.8	0.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.3	0.7
Cleveland, Ohio	0.8	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.3	1.2
Denver, Colo.	0.5	0.9	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1
Detroit, Mich.	0.5	1.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.4
Houston, Texas	0.2	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	0.7	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	-0.5	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.6	1.1	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
Manchester, N. H.	--	1.0	--	0.1	0.2	0.0	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	1.3	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	1.8	--	0.1	0.0	0.1	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.7	1.4	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.7	0.9	0.3
Mobile, Ala.	--	-0.2	--	0.1	0.0	0.0	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	0.1	--	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	--	--
New York, N. Y.	0.5	1.0	0.5	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	0.9	0.2
Norfolk, Va.	--	-0.5	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.7	0.3
Portland, Maine	--	0.0	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	1.1	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	0.4	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	0.3	0.8	0.7	-1.0	-2.4	0.0	-0.5	0.1
San Francisco, Calif.	0.6	0.7	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.1
Savannah, Ga.	0.0	0.1 ^{1/}	-1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.4
Scranton, Pa.	--	0.3	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	0.5	0.5	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.3
Washington, D. C.	-0.2	-0.8	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

^{1/} April meat prices used in computation of May food price index due to extensive shortages of meat in May. Increases subsequent to April will be fully reflected in the index as soon as supplies improve.

^{2/} Revised Food Index April, 1946 - 142.3

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Bureau of Labor Statistics
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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD - JUNE 1946

Consumers' Prices Advanced 1.2 Percent Between May and June

In view of the great public interest in the course of prices during July and the numerous requests for information received by the Department of Labor, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has expedited its tabulations of the consumers' price index for the month of July and early next week (August 5 or 6) will have preliminary figures for the country as a whole and final figures for a number of the cities included in the index. It will continue to issue preliminary figures in the next three or four months at about the same time.

Retail prices of goods and services used by moderate-income city families advanced 1.2 percent between mid-May and mid-June -- the last month before suspension of OPA controls. Higher prices were reported for all groups of items in the family budget. The consumers' price index prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor was 133.3 percent of the 1935-39 average in mid-June, and 35.2 percent higher than in August 1939. Retail prices have advanced 2.4 percent in the quarter between mid-March and mid-June.

June food prices were 2.1 percent above May as retail prices of dairy and cereal and bakery products rose sharply. Meat prices reported were 0.4 percent higher on the average. In June shortages of meat continued to be so acute that it was impossible again to obtain an adequate number of price quotations to compute a reliable measure of change in retail meat prices and therefore the June food index understates somewhat the actual rise in food costs. In order that indexes for food and for all commodities could be published, meat prices were assumed to have remained unchanged since they were last reported in 23 of the 56 cities regularly surveyed for food prices. The July index will be based on the usual number of price quotations and will reflect increases in the prices of meat that have occurred since meat prices were last collected.

The average price of cereal and bakery products increased 6 percent, reflecting the higher ceiling prices allowed by OPA to compensate for increased grain and other production costs. The cost of dairy products rose 6.6 percent on the average after the ceiling prices of butter, cheese, milk, and canned milk prices were adjusted in early June. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices dropped 1.5 percent; eggs moved up seasonally almost 5 percent.

June 15 prices were also higher for all other principal groups of living essentials. Clothing prices advancing for the thirty-sixth consecutive month, rose 1.0 percent. Prices for all men's apparel were higher, with light wool suits and cotton suits retailing at 11 and 19 percent higher this season than last. House-furnishings costs advanced 1.6 percent during the month as slightly higher prices were reported for furniture, towels, and sheets. Miscellaneous goods and services rose 0.6 percent because of increased costs of medical care, newspapers, haircuts, and automobile liability insurance.

Bituminous coal prices increased 1.6 percent between May and June as some retailers took the average 40.5 cents a ton higher ceilings allowed by OPA in June. The 91 cents per ton increase allowed for anthracite coal will be shown in the index in July. Electricity costs were reduced 9 percent on the average to consumers in Minneapolis.

Residential rents advanced 0.1 percent between March and June, continuing the increase begun in the first quarter of 1946. Rents increased on the average in 10 of the 18 cities surveyed during June; were slightly lower in 4 cities; and remained unchanged in four.

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*Note: The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose income average \$1524 in 1934-36.

The index only partially shows the wartime effects of changes in quality, availability of consumer goods, etc. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the index for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If small cities were included in the national average, another 1/2 point would be added. If account is also taken of continued deterioration of quality and disappearance of low-priced merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, the over-all adjustment for the period January 1941 to September 1945 would total approximately 5 points. As merchandise of prewar quality and specifications comes back into the markets and the Bureau is able regularly to price it again, this adjustment factor will gradually decrease and finally disappear.

General Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 3, which have been estimated for January 1 (the date used in the "Little Steel" wage formula of the National War Labor Board), by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

The President's "hold-the-line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is therefore used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Rents are now surveyed semiannually in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities, because of the general stability of average rents at the present time, the indexes are held constant in cities not surveyed during the current quarter.

Prices for fuel, electricity and ice are collected monthly in 34 large cities.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Aug. 1945	May 1943	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	"Hold. the Line"*	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0							
ALL ITEMS	133.3	131.7R	129.0	129.3	125.1	100.8	98.6
Food	145.6	142.6	141.1	140.9	143.0	97.6	93.5
Clothing	157.2	155.7R	145.4	146.4	127.9	101.2	100.3
Rent	108.5	--	108.3	--	108.0	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	110.5	110.3	110.0	111.4	107.6	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.1	92.2	95.2	95.2	96.1	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	128.4	127.8	124.5	127.2	118.7	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	156.1	153.7R	145.8	146.0	125.1	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	127.9	127.2R	124.0	124.5	115.3	101.3	100.4
Percent Change to June 1946							
ALL ITEMS	--	1.2	3.3	3.1	6.6	32.2	35.2
Food	--	2.1	3.2	3.3	1.8	49.2	55.7
Clothing	--	1.0	8.1	7.4	22.9	55.3	56.7
Rent 1/	--	--	0.2	--	0.5	3.3	4.0
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	0.2	0.5	-0.8	2.7	9.6	13.3
Gas & electricity	--	-0.1	-3.3	-3.3	-4.2	-5.5	-7.0
Other fuels & ice	--	0.5	3.1	0.9	8.2	23.5	33.3
Housefurnishings	--	1.6	7.1	6.9	24.8	55.8	55.2
Miscellaneous	--	0.6	3.1	2.7	10.9	25.6	27.4

R Revised

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Percent change from December 1945.

TABLE 2 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	June 18 1946 This Month 1/	May 11 1946 Last Month	June 12 1945 Year Ago	Aug 14 1945 V-J	May 18 1943 "Hold the Line"	Jan. 14 1941 "Little Steel" 2/	Aug. 15 1939 Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100							
ALL FOODS	145.6	142.6	141.1	140.9	143.0	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	122.1	115.2	109.1	109.1	107.6	94.9	93.4
Meats 3/	134.0	133.5R	131.6	131.8	138.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	121.2	120.9R	118.5	118.5	131.2	109.4	99.6
Pork	114.3	114.0	112.6	112.6	125.5	86.1	88.0
Lamb	139.0	138.7	136.0	136.4	141.6	98.7	98.8
Chickens	162.8	161.5	156.8	157.3	147.6	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	219.7	218.3	215.6	217.8	200.5	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	147.8	138.6	133.4	133.4	136.9	105.1	93.1
Eggs	147.1	140.5	145.1	171.4	142.1	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	183.5	185.7	192.6	183.5	190.8	93.3	92.4
Fresh	196.7	199.6	207.7	196.2	205.8	93.4	92.8
Canned	127.5	127.8	130.1	130.3	131.1	91.4	91.6
Dried	172.5	171.9	168.8	168.6	158.0	99.6	90.3
Beverages	125.4	125.4	124.7	124.7	124.5	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	126.4	126.1	123.9	124.0	126.3	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	136.2	135.9	126.4	126.6	127.6	95.3	95.6
Percent Change to June 18, 1946							
ALL FOODS	--	2.1	3.2	3.3	1.8	48.9	55.7
Cereals & bakery products	--	6.0	11.9	11.9	13.5	28.7	30.7
Meats 3/	--	0.4	1.8	1.7	-3.1	32.5	40.0
Beef & veal	--	0.2	2.3	2.3	-7.6	10.8	21.7
Pork	--	0.3	1.5	1.5	-8.9	32.8	29.9
Lamb	--	0.2	2.2	1.9	-1.8	40.8	40.7
Chickens	--	0.8	3.8	3.5	10.3	67.5	72.2
Fish, fresh & canned	--	0.6	1.9	0.9	9.6	85.1	120.6
Dairy products	--	6.6	10.8	10.8	8.0	40.6	58.8
Eggs	--	4.8	1.4	-14.2	3.5	51.0	62.2
Fruits & vegetables	--	-1.2	-4.7	0	-3.8	96.7	98.6
Fresh	--	-1.5	-5.3	0.3	-1.4	110.6	112.0
Canned	--	-0.2	-2.0	-2.1	-2.7	39.5	39.2
Dried	--	0.3	2.2	2.3	9.2	73.2	91.0
Beverages	--	0	0.6	0.6	0.7	38.0	32.1
Fats & oils	--	0.2	2.0	1.9	0.1	57.4	49.6
Sugar & sweets	--	0.2	7.8	7.6	6.7	42.9	42.5

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

R Revised

1/ Preliminary

2/ The "Little Steel" wage formula applies to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

3/ Meat indexes for June based on June prices for 33 cities, on May prices for 18 cities, and on April prices for 5 cities.

TABLE 3 - 'CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO JUNE 1946
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	May 1946	June 1945	May 1943	Aug. 1945	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	"Hold the Line" *	V-J	"Little Steel" *	Month Before War In Europe
AVERAGE	1.2	3.3	6.6	3.1	32.2	35.2
Atlanta, Ga.	-	2.8	7.1	1.9	34.1	36.5
Baltimore, Md.	1.4	2.0	5.8	2.3	34.7	37.4
Birmingham, Ala.	1.5	3.3	8.5	1.9	34.4	38.6
Boston, Mass.	0.9	1.9	4.6	1.8	29.1	31.7
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.5	2.5	3.0	2.5	30.1	34.6
Chicago, Ill.	0.6	2.1	5.1	2.3	29.3	32.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.9	2.2	6.8	2.2	32.7	35.9
Cleveland, Ohio	1.3	2.6	6.0	2.7	33.0	35.7
Denver, Colo.	1.2	2.6	5.9	3.1	31.7	33.6
Detroit, Mich.	1.5	4.3	7.1	4.0	35.0	38.5
Houston, Tex.	1.6	3.0	4.9	2.4	27.9	29.6
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	1.9	4.8	1.5	29.3	34.6
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	2.1	6.5	0.5	35.8	40.5
Kansas City, Mo.	0.3	1.8	5.6	1.4	31.5	31.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.3	4.3	8.2	3.9	32.8	35.4
Manchester, N. H.	-	2.6	5.2	2.7	34.4	37.7
Memphis, Tenn.	-	1.9	5.4	1.5	34.8	37.5
Milwaukee, Wis.	-	3.3	5.9	3.4	32.3	35.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	1.5	3.9	6.2	3.6	27.1	29.8
Mobile, Ala.	-	2.8	4.1	0.8	32.4	34.8
New Orleans, La.	-	4.2	6.3	2.5	35.7	38.4
New York, N. Y.	1.1	4.7	9.3	4.5	34.5	37.2
Norfolk, Va.	-	2.2	2.5	1.1	34.4	38.2
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.1	3.7	6.2	3.2	33.6	35.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.9	3.2	7.8	3.5	33.1	36.9
Portland, Maine	-	1.6	3.5	1.3	30.7	32.5
Portland, Oreg.	-	3.5	7.1	3.3	37.5	40.2
Richmond, Va.	-	2.4	4.1	1.7	28.7	30.8
St. Louis, Mo.	1.2	3.0	5.8	2.9	29.9	33.7
San Francisco, Calif.	2.2	3.8	7.6	4.0	35.4	38.8
Savannah, Ga.	1.0	3.1	6.6	1.7	38.7	41.6
Scranton, Pa.	-	3.1	5.6	3.6	33.3	37.7
Seattle, Wash.	1.3	3.8	5.8	3.1	34.2	36.6
Washington, D. C.	1.8	4.1	8.2	3.8	33.9	35.7

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE 1946

(Note: Some indexes for April and May revised)

(1935-39 = 100)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect., & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
AVERAGE									
April	131.1	141.7	154.5	--	110.4	92.6	127.8	152.0	126.7
May	131.7	142.6	155.7	--	110.3	92.2	127.8	153.7	127.2
June	133.3	145.6	157.2	108.5	110.5	92.1	128.4	156.1	127.9
Atlanta									
April	--	140.8	--	--	113.0	82.7	140.9	--	--
May	--	1/ 140.2	--	--	113.0	82.7	141.0	--	--
June	133.8	1/ 141.0	152.7	--	113.9	82.8	142.6	155.6	138.2
Baltimore									
April	133.4	149.4	158.4	--	112.1	96.5	124.7	151.4	123.5
May	133.7	149.3	160.8	--	112.1	96.5	124.8	157.0	123.4
June	135.6	152.4	161.5	--	112.2	96.5	125.0	161.0	125.8
Birmingham									
April	133.6	142.3	150.8	--	108.3	79.6	129.8	143.7	128.9
May	134.5	144.0	152.1	--	108.3	79.6	129.8	146.0	128.6
June	136.5	147.7	154.2	122.5	112.9	79.6	137.9	150.6	128.9
Boston									
April	126.6	135.9	150.7	--	118.2	102.3	126.9	147.1	121.2
May	126.7	135.1	153.8	--	118.2	102.4	126.9	148.5	121.5
June	127.9	2/ 138.0	153.9	--	118.2	102.4	126.9	149.4	122.0
Buffalo									
April	131.2	138.8	153.9	--	108.9	94.9	121.4	151.0	128.4
May	132.0	139.0	155.1	--	108.9	94.9	121.4	150.8	130.9
June	132.6	140.2	156.2	115.2	108.9	94.9	121.4	153.3	130.9
Chicago									
April	129.9	141.9	148.4	--	103.9	86.3	122.2	139.1	123.4
May	130.1	141.9	150.3	--	102.5	83.5	122.3	140.8	124.0
June	130.9	2/ 142.8	152.1	115.2	102.7	83.5	122.7	147.8	124.5
Cincinnati									
April	130.2	137.9	152.8	--	108.4	90.8	125.2	146.9	129.4
May	131.0	139.1	153.6	--	108.4	90.8	125.3	149.3	130.2
June	132.2	141.4	154.1	--	110.3	90.8	128.8	150.8	130.3
Cleveland									
April	132.7	144.5	150.2	--	114.4	104.9	123.7	145.6	124.7
May	134.0	146.7	150.9	--	114.4	104.9	123.7	145.6	126.6
June	135.7	149.3	152.3	--	114.9	104.9	124.7	151.2	128.1

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.
See page 9 for footnotes.

TABLE 4 - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE 1946

(Note: Some indexes for April and May revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
Denver									
April	129.4	140.5	148.3	--	97.9	77.3	122.4	172.3	124.7
May	130.1	141.7	149.8	--	97.9	77.3	122.4	173.8	125.1
June	131.7	145.3	151.2	110.3	98.3	77.3	123.2	171.9	125.2
Detroit									
April	133.6	140.1	152.4	--	111.9	84.1	133.0	158.9	137.4
May	134.4	141.6	152.7	--	111.9	84.1	133.0	161.6	138.0
June	136.4	2/ 145.4	154.4	115.2	111.9	84.1	133.0	164.3	139.5
Houston									
April	128.0	139.7	145.9	--	88.7	81.8	107.2	148.2	125.9
May	128.5	139.7	147.4	--	88.7	81.8	107.2	150.3	127.0
June	130.5	144.0	149.6	--	88.7	81.8	107.2	154.2	127.2
Indianapolis									
April	--	137.7	--	--	114.7	91.5	128.1	--	--
May	--	138.6	--	--	114.7	91.5	128.1	--	--
June	131.9	2/ 141.5	143.0	116.3	112.8	86.6	128.1	148.5	128.6
Jacksonville									
April	--	148.0	--	--	117.7	92.8	139.4	--	--
May	--	147.3	--	--	117.7	92.8	139.4	--	--
June	138.4	2/ 150.8	149.4	--	117.7	92.8	139.4	149.5	139.4
Kansas City									
April	128.5	134.0	148.2	--	114.4	95.3	131.8	147.1	129.2
May	129.0	134.9	148.8	--	114.4	95.3	131.8	149.4	129.3
June	129.4	2/ 134.8	149.6	110.0	114.4	95.3	131.8	150.0	130.6
Los Angeles									
April	133.4	149.0	149.0	--	92.5	91.0	99.8	145.9	129.8
May	134.3	150.7	150.3	--	92.5	91.0	99.8	148.0	129.9
June	136.1	154.8	151.3	111.3	92.5	91.0	99.8	149.1	130.1
Manchester									
April	--	137.8	--	--	121.8	95.8	134.8	--	--
May	--	139.2	--	--	121.9	96.0	134.8	--	--
June	134.7	144.4	154.0	--	122.0	96.1	134.9	150.4	122.4
Memphis									
April	--	149.8	--	--	107.3	77.0	124.1	--	--
May	--	151.7	--	--	107.3	77.0	124.1	--	--
June	134.5	153.6	155.2	--	107.4	77.0	124.2	143.9	121.4

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.
See page 9 for footnotes

TABLE 4 - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE 1946

(Note: Some indexes for April and May revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
Milwaukee									
April	--	138.3	--	--	111.8	95.0	123.3	--	--
May	--	140.8	--	--	111.9	95.0	123.4	--	--
June	131.2	144.3	150.7	108.8	112.9	95.0	125.1	150.9	123.9
Minneapolis									
April	126.5	133.0	152.8	--	103.1	78.9	119.0	149.8	123.6
May	127.5	134.9	153.8	--	103.6	78.9	119.8	151.7	124.2
June	129.4	137.5	158.0	--	103.6	78.9	119.8	153.4	126.4
Mobile									
April	--	148.6	--	--	104.2	83.8	120.4	--	--
May	--	148.3	--	--	104.3	83.8	120.4	--	--
June	132.9	<u>2/</u> 149.8	152.1	<u>2/</u> 114.1	105.7	83.8	123.3	146.4	120.4
New Orleans									
April	--	153.6	--	--	103.0	77.2	129.9	--	--
May	--	153.8	--	--	103.0	77.1	129.9	--	--
June	138.0	<u>2/</u> 157.6	156.4	107.1	103.0	77.1	129.9	146.3	126.6
New York									
April	133.6	144.5	169.5	--	113.8	95.0	142.9	149.2	129.2
May	134.3	145.9	170.2	--	113.6	94.6	142.8	151.3	129.5
June	135.8	<u>2/</u> 149.2	170.7	103.6	113.6	94.6	142.8	152.7	129.7
Norfolk									
April	--	147.2	--	--	118.6	94.9	137.4	--	--
May	--	146.4	--	--	118.6	94.9	137.4	--	--
June	135.2	146.0	152.3	109.3	120.1	94.9	140.0	153.8	133.6
Philadelphia									
April	130.2	139.6	152.1	--	114.9	92.5	131.9	153.2	123.8
May	131.0	141.0	153.3	--	114.9	92.5	132.0	155.1	124.3
June	132.5	143.5	156.0	--	115.0	92.5	132.1	158.5	124.9
Pittsburgh									
April	131.8	142.5	171.8	--	112.8	103.3	129.3	150.1	120.9
May	132.2	142.8	172.8	--	112.8	103.1	129.3	152.2	121.4
June	134.7	147.1	175.7	--	114.1	103.1	133.1	155.2	123.6
Portland, Mo.									
April	--	135.4	--	--	115.8	98.7	124.6	--	--
May	--	135.4	--	--	115.8	98.7	124.6	--	--
June	128.7	138.4	155.2	106.2	115.9	98.9	124.6	146.9	122.3

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

See page 2 for footnotes

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TABLE 4 - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE 1946

(Note: Some indexes for April and May revised)

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Total	Elect. & Gas & Electricity	Ice & Other Fuel & Ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
Portland, Oreg.									
April	--	151.5	--	--	121.4	87.9	162.2	--	--
May	--	153.2	--	--	121.4	87.9	162.2	--	--
June	140.3	153.4	149.7 ^{2/}	114.1	121.3	87.9	162.2	159.1	132.7
Richmond									
April	--	136.7	--	--	108.3	94.2	117.0	--	--
May	--	137.3	--	--	108.4	94.2	117.0	--	--
June	128.2	2/138.4	153.2	--	110.3	94.2	120.2	154.8	122.1
St. Louis									
April	129.2	143.4	150.2	--	109.4	99.6	118.1	133.4	123.0
May	129.6	144.5	151.3	--	108.3	97.2	118.1	133.2	123.2
June	131.2	147.4	154.6	--	108.7	97.2	118.9	134.2	123.4
San Francisco									
April	134.1	149.3	147.4	--	85.9	77.7	113.2	129.8	135.0
May	134.8	150.4	149.7	--	85.9	77.7	113.2	130.0	135.1
June	137.8	155.5	152.6	--	85.9	77.7	113.2	132.0	137.9
Savannah									
April	139.2	155.7	154.6	--	112.5	91.2	125.4	169.5	131.3
May	139.2	1/155.8	153.0	--	112.5	91.2	125.5	172.4	131.8
June	140.6	1/158.5	154.3	115.5	112.5	91.2	125.5	172.3	132.8
Scranton									
April	--	143.3	--	--	119.6	91.8	136.7	--	--
May	--	143.8	--	--	119.8	91.8	136.9	--	--
June	132.2	2/144.0	158.7 ^{2/}	104.3	120.0	91.8	137.2	151.2	119.3
Seattle									
April	134.6	146.3	150.6	--	105.8	83.9	124.0	151.4	135.2
May	135.3	147.1	153.2	--	105.8	83.9	124.0	151.4	135.7
June	137.0	2/151.6	153.8	--	105.8	83.9	124.0	151.8	135.8
Washington									
April	131.7	142.2	172.3	--	112.1	94.4	123.9	147.6	131.0
May	131.4	141.1	172.2	--	112.2	94.4	123.9	149.4	131.1
June	133.8	145.5	175.7	100.3	112.2	94.4	123.9	153.3	133.1

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

1/ April meat prices used in computation of food price index for May and June because of extensive shortages of meat in May and June.

2/ May meat prices used in computation of June food price index because of continued shortages of meat in June.

3/ Data collected in May 1946.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM MAY TO JUNE 1946

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
				Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	1.2	2.1	1.0	0.2	-0.1	0.5	1.6	0.6
Atlanta, Ga.	-	1/ 0.6	-	0.8	0.1	1.1	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	1.4	2.1	0.4	0.1	0	0.2	2.5	1.9
Birmingham, Ala.	1.5	2.6	1.4	4.2	0	6.2	1.8	0.2
Boston, Mass.	0.9	2/ 2.1	0.1	0	0	0	0.6	0.4
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.5	0.9	0.7	0	0	0	1.7	0
Chicago, Ill.	0.6	2/ 0.6	1.2	0.2	0	0.3	5.0	0.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.9	1.7	0.3	1.8	0	2.8	1.0	0.1
Cleveland, Ohio	1.3	1.8	0.9	0.4	0	0.8	3.8	1.2
Denver, Colo.	1.2	2.5	0.9	0.4	0	0.7	-1.1	0.1
Detroit, Mich.	1.5	2/ 2.7	1.1	0	0	0	1.7	1.1
Houston, Texas	1.6	3.1	1.5	0	0	0	2.6	0.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	2/ 2.1	-	-1.7	-5.4	0	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	2/ 2.4	-	0	0	0	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	0.3	2/ -0.1	0.5	0	0	0	0.4	1.0
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.3	2.7	0.7	0	0	0	0.7	0.2
Manchester, N. H.	-	3.7	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	1.3	-	0.1	0	0.1	-	-
Milwaukee, Wis.	-	2.5	-	0.9	0	1.4	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	1.5	1.9	2.7	0	0	0	1.1	1.8
Mobile, Ala.	-	2/ 1.0	-	1.3	0	2.4	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	2/ 2.5	-	0	0	0	-	-
New York, N. Y.	1.1	2/ 2.3	0.3	0	0	0	0.9	0.2
Norfolk, Va.	-	-0.3	-	1.3	0	1.9	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.1	1.8	1.8	0.1	0	0.1	2.2	0.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.9	3.0	1.7	1.2	0	2.9	2.0	1.8
Portland, Maine	-	2.2	-	0.1	0.2	0	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	3.4	-	-0.1	0	0	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	2/ 0.8	-	1.8	0	2.7	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	1.2	2.0	2.0	0.4	0	0.7	1.2	0.2
San Francisco, Calif.	2.2	3.4	1.9	0	0	0	0	2.1
Savannah, Ga.	1.0	1/ 1.7	0.8	0	0	0	-0.1	0.8
Scranton, Pa.	-	2/ 0.1	-	0.2	0	0.2	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	1.3	2/ 3.1	0.4	0	0	0	0.3	0.1
Washington, D. C.	1.8	3.1	2.0	0	0	0	2.6	1.5

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

1/ April meat prices used in the computation of the May and June food price indexes because of extensive shortages of meat in May and June.

2/ May meat prices used in the computation of the June food price index because of extensive shortages of meat in June.

TABLE 5A - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM MARCH TO JUNE 1946

Page 11
June 1946

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice	House- furnish- ings	Miscel- lanous
AVERAGE	2.4	3.9	2.7	0.1	0	-0.9	0.5	3.9	1.6
Atlanta, Ga.	1.7	1/ 2.4	2.6	-	0.8	0.1	1.3	1.5	1.3
Baltimore, Md.	2.6	3.6	3.9	-	0.1	0	0.3	7.2	2.1
Birmingham, Ala.	2.5	3.4	4.5	3/ 0	4.2	0	6.2	6.4	0.2
Boston, Mass.	1.8	2/ 2.9	2.3	-	0.1	0	0.1	2.9	1.3
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.8	2.8	2.7	3/ 0	0	0	0	1.9	1.9
Chicago, Ill.	2.3	2/ 3.0	3.8	3/ 0.2	-1.2	-3.2	0.5	7.1	2.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	2.2	3.3	0.7	-	1.8	0	3.0	3.1	2.1
Cleveland, Ohio	3.0	4.6	2.5	-	0.4	0	0.8	4.5	3.2
Denver, Colo.	2.2	3.9	3.1	3/ 0.4	0.5	0	1.0	0.6	0.3
Detroit, Mich.	3.2	2/ 6.1	2.0	3/ 0.1	0	0.1	0	5.0	1.9
Houston, Texas	2.3	3.4	2.7	-	0	0	0	5.3	1.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	1.5	2/ 4.0	0.6	3/ 0.3	-1.7	-5.4	0	0	0.2
Jacksonville, Fla.	1.7	2/ 2.9	2.3	-	0	0	0	0.7	0.8
Kansas City, Mo.	1.3	2/ 0.9	1.4	3/ 0.3	0.1	0	0.2	2.7	2.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	2.3	4.0	2.3	3/ 0.5	0	0	0	3.3	0.5
Manchester, N. H.	2.8	5.9	0.7	-	0.5	0.5	0.4	3.1	0.5
Memphis, Tenn.	1.5	3.2	1.3	-	0.1	0	0.1	2.3	0.1
Milwaukee, Wisc.	3.2	5.7	2.5	3/ 0.1	1.0	0	1.5	2.4	2.7
Minneapolis, Minn.	2.6	4.3	3.9	-	-1.4	-5.6	0.5	3.2	2.3
Mobile, Ala.	1.2	2/ 1.4	3.2	4/ -0.1	1.4	0	2.4	-0.2	0.4
New Orleans, La.	2.7	2/ 4.0	6.2	3/ -0.1	0	-0.1	0.1	1.4	0.2
New York, N. Y.	2.7	2/ 4.8	2.1	3/ 0.1	-0.2	-0.4	0	5.5	1.0
Norfolk, Va.	1.0	1.0	3.8	3/ 0.2	-0.7	-5.2	1.9	3.8	0
Philadelphia, Pa.	2.4	3.2	3.0	-	0	0	0	5.0	2.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	2.7	4.0	3.1	-	1.2	-0.1	2.9	5.8	2.2
Portland, Maine	1.5	2.7	3.8	5/ -0.1	0.1	0.2	0	1.1	-0.3
Portland, Oreg.	3.2	5.7	4.2	4/ -0.2	0.1	0	0.2	2.0	1.5
Richmond, Va.	1.7	2/ 1.4	5.1	-	0.2	-4.8	2.8	3.6	1.7
St. Louis, Mo.	2.2	3.4	5.3	-	-0.6	-2.4	0.7	1.4	0.3
San Francisco, Calif.	3.1	4.9	4.0	-	-2.7	-3.6	0	2.0	2.4
Savannah, Ga.	1.4	1/ 2.5	0.2	3/ 0	-0.5	-2.1	0.1	2.7	1.3
Scranton, Pa.	2.8	2/ 1.6	5.1	4/ 6.0	0.4	0	0.6	2.4	2.3
Seattle, Wash.	2.1	2/ 4.1	2.4	-	0.2	0	0.2	-0.3	0.4
Washington, D. C.	2.0	3.0	2.6	3/ 0	0.1	0	0	3.9	1.8

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

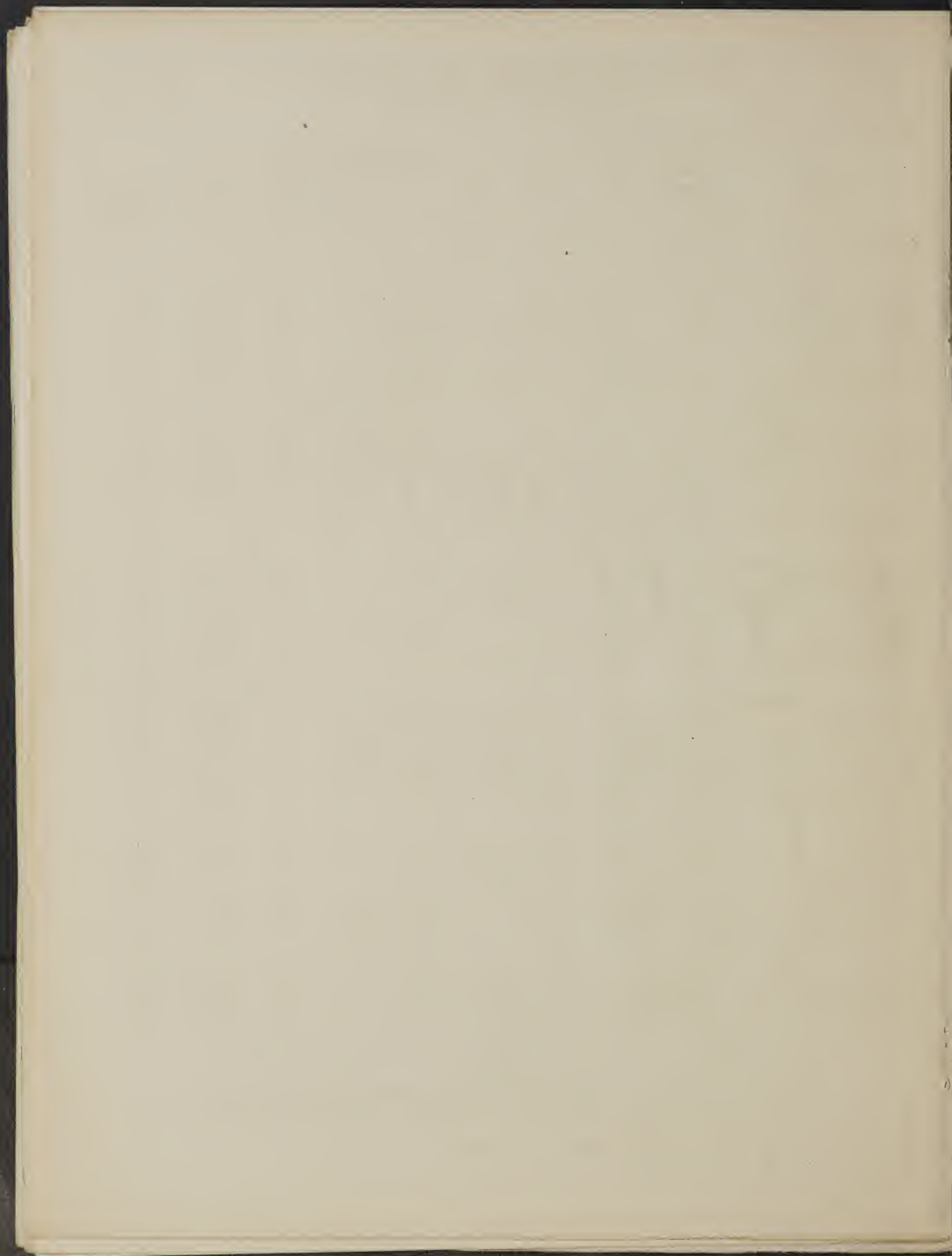
1/ April meat prices used in the computation of the June food price indexes.

2/ May meat prices used in the computation of the June food price indexes.

3/ Change from December 1945.

4/ Percent change from December 1945 to May 1946.

5/ Change from November 1945.



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COMPLETE CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD - OCT 17 1946
JULY 15, 1946

Consumers' Prices Rose 5.8 Percent Between June 15, 1946 and July 15, 1946
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is today releasing completed figures on the Consumers' Price Index from mid-June to mid-July, which had previously been released on a preliminary basis. Following is the completed record for the middle of July.

Retail prices for consumers' goods in large cities advanced 5.8 percent between mid-June and mid-July, according to complete reports for July 15, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor. Food prices rose 13.8 percent--the largest monthly change ever recorded; prices for other living essentials advanced 0.3 percent on the average; rents were not surveyed in July. The consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities for July 15, 1946, was 141.0 percent of the 1935-39 average, 9 percent higher than a year ago.

In mid-July, after the temporary suspension of OPA controls and the removal of subsidies, consumers' prices were 5.6 percent below the all-time high of June 1920, 43 percent higher than in August 1939. Food, clothing, and housefurnishings were 77, 57, and 56 percent higher, respectively, on July 15, 1946 than at the beginning of World War II.

Food prices jumped 13.8 percent between mid-June and mid-July; the largest monthly increase previous to this time was slightly more than 9 percent from March to April 1917. Prices of meats and dairy products advanced 29.6 and 21.2 percent, respectively; other important foods increased 3.7 percent on the average during the month. A part of this rise in meat prices may have occurred between mid-April and mid-June, when the meat shortage was so severe that the Bureau could not obtain an adequate number of meat prices and therefore the indexes for meats were held unchanged for a number of cities. The July index, based on the usual number of price quotations, reflects the correct level of prices, and the full price change that has occurred during the recent months of acute shortages. Prices of milk increased 2.5 cents per quart between mid-June and mid-July. Prices of foods on which subsidies had been paid prior to July 1 rose 18.8 percent on the average; prices for all other foods increased 4.6 percent during the month.

Clothing and housefurnishings prices rose only slightly (0.4 and 0.5 percent, respectively) between mid-June and mid-July. Cost of miscellaneous goods and services declined 0.1 percent during the month. Higher prices were reported for household supplies, beauty shop services, motion picture admissions, and newspapers in some cities. The Federal auto-use tax expired on June 30, 1946.

Anthracite and bituminous coal prices advanced almost 6 percent, reflecting higher ceilings allowed by OPA in June to meet higher production costs.

Rents were not surveyed in July, but will be surveyed in August and September. The July index does not reflect any changes in rents that may have occurred during the period when federal rent controls was not in effect.

Page 1a
July 1946

The over-the-month advance in retail prices ranged from 4.1 percent in Seattle to 7.7 percent in Chicago. In Boston consumers' prices rose 7.6 percent, while in Houston prices increased 4.2 percent. Consumers' prices rose less rapidly on the West Coast than in other areas between June 15 and July 15. By mid-July 1946 retail food prices were more than 80 percent higher than in August 1939 in 17 of the 51 cities surveyed during both dates; in all but 11 of these 51 cities, food prices had increased more than 70 percent. An increase from 1 to 2 percent in the New York City sales tax rate was reflected in the July 15 index.

Merchandise of prewar quality is beginning to appear again in substantial quantities in retail stores. As supplies of these goods become large enough to price regularly, direct comparisons with prewar prices of such merchandise are made in computing the consumers' price index. When prices of prewar quality merchandise for most articles are available for use in the index a large part of the 5 point adjustment which was made in the autumn of 1945 in Executive Order to take account of wartime changes in quality, availability of consumers' goods, etc., will no longer be applicable. Since a considerable number of articles of prewar quality are now being reintroduced into the index, it appears likely that most of this adjustment will have been made by the end of this year.

*Note: The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose income average \$1524 in 1934-36.

The index only partially shows the wartime effects of changes in quality, availability of consumer goods, etc. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the index for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If small cities were included in the national average, another 1/2 point would be added. If account is also taken of continued deterioration of quality and disappearance of low-priced merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, the over-all adjustment for the period January 1941 to September 1945 would total approximately 5 points. "Merchandise of prewar quality is appearing again in retail stores and quantities of these goods are becoming large enough to price regularly, so that direct comparisons with prewar prices of such merchandise are made in computing the consumers' price index. If prices of prewar merchandise for most articles have been available for use in the index by the end of 1946, as now seems likely, most of this 5 point adjustment will no longer be applicable at that time".

General Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 3, which have been estimated for January 1.

Wage Base Date. January 1, 1941 is the base date for determining allowable "cost of living" wage increased under the "Little Steel" formula and under the wage-price policy of February 1946. January 1, 1941 indexes in Tables 1 and 3 have been estimated by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

Hold-the-Line. The President's "hold-the-line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is therefore used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Page 2a
July 1946

Rents were not surveyed in July 1946, but will be surveyed in all 34 cities during August and September 1946. Rents have been surveyed only semi-annually since the latter part of 1944 in most of the 34 cities (in March and September, or in June and December). In computing the all items indexes for individual cities and the rent index for the average of large cities during periods rents were not surveyed, because of the general stability of average rents, the indexes were held constant.

Fuel, electricity and ice prices are collected monthly in 39 large cities.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

	July 1946	June 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1945	May 1943	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
Group	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	"Hold the Line"*	Wage Base Date	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	141.0	133.3	129.4	129.3	125.1	100.8	98.6
Food	165.7	145.6	141.7	140.9	143.0	97.6	93.5
Clothing	157.9	157.2	145.9	146.4	127.9	104.2	100.3
Rent		108.5	--	--	108.0	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	113.3	110.5	111.2	111.4	107.6	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.1	92.1	95.2	95.2	96.1	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & Ice	133.7	128.4	126.7	127.2	118.7	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	156.9	156.1	145.6	146.0	125.1	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	127.8	127.9	124.3	124.5	115.3	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to July, 1946

ALL ITEMS	--	5.8	9.0	9.0	12.7	39.9	43.0
Food	--	13.8	16.9	17.6	15.9	69.8	77.2
Clothing	--	0.4	8.2	7.9	23.5	56.0	57.4
Rent 1/	--	--	--	--	0.5	3.3	4.0
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	2.5	1.9	1.7	5.3	12.4	16.2
Gas & electricity	--	0.0	-3.3	-3.3	-4.2	-5.5	-8.0
Other fuels & Ice	--	4.1	5.5	5.1	12.6	28.6	38.8
Housefurnishings	--	0.5	7.8	7.5	25.4	56.6	56.0
Miscellaneous	--	-0.1	2.8	2.7	10.8	25.5	27.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Percent change to June, 1946.

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TABLE 2 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED* July, 1946
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	July 16 1946 This Month	June 18 1946 Last Month	July 17 1945 Year Ago	Aug. 1945 V-J	May 18 1943 "Hold the Line"*	Jan. 14 1941 Wage Base Data * 1/	Aug. 15 1939 Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100							
ALL FOODS	165.7	145.6	141.7	140.9	143.0	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	126.1	122.1	109.1	109.1	107.6	94.9	93.4
Meats	173.7	2/134.0	131.6	131.8	138.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	175.2	121.2	118.5	118.5	131.2	109.4	99.6
Pork	150.3	114.3	112.7	112.6	125.5	86.1	88.0
Lamb	171.6	139.0	136.0	136.4	141.6	98.7	98.8
Chickens	178.2	162.8	156.2	157.3	147.6	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	235.2	219.7	217.3	217.8	200.5	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	179.1	147.8	133.4	133.4	136.9	105.1	93.1
Eggs	161.0	147.1	157.2	171.4	142.1	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	188.4	183.5	191.8	183.5	190.8	93.3	92.4
Fresh	202.1	196.7	206.7	196.2	205.8	93.4	92.8
Canned	130.9	127.5	130.2	130.3	131.1	91.4	91.6
Dried	175.9	172.5	168.9	168.6	158.0	99.6	90.3
Beverages	126.0	125.4	124.7	124.7	124.5	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	137.9	126.4	124.0	124.0	126.3	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	138.5	136.2	126.5	126.6	127.6	95.3	95.6
Percent Change to July 1946							
ALL FOODS	---	13.8	16.9	17.6	15.9	69.4	77.2
Cereals & bakery products	---	3.3	15.6	15.6	17.2	32.9	35.0
Meats	---	3/29.6	32.0	31.6	25.6	71.8	81.5
Beef & veal	---	44.6	47.8	47.8	33.5	60.1	75.9
Pork	---	31.5	33.4	33.5	19.8	74.6	70.8
Lamb	---	23.5	26.2	25.8	21.2	73.9	73.7
Chickens	---	9.5	14.1	13.3	20.7	83.3	88.4
Fish, fresh & canned	---	7.1	8.2	8.0	17.3	98.1	136.1
Dairy products	---	21.2	34.3	34.3	30.8	70.4	92.4
Eggs	---	9.4	2.4	- 6.1	13.3	65.3	77.5
Fruits & vegetables	---	2.7	- 1.8	2.7	- 1.3	101.9	103.9
Fresh	---	2.7	- 2.2	3.0	- 1.8	116.4	117.8
Canned	---	2.7	0.5	0.5	- 0.2	43.2	42.9
Dried	---	2.0	4.1	4.3	11.3	76.6	94.8
Beverages	---	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.2	38.6	32.8
Fats & oils	---	9.1	11.2	11.2	9.2	71.7	63.2
Sugar & sweets	---	1.7	9.5	9.4	8.5	45.3	44.9

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ The wage formulas apply to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

2/ Meat indexes for June based on June prices for 33 cities, on May prices for 18 cities, and on April prices for 5 cities.

3/ Some of this advance may have occurred between mid-April and mid-June when there were severe shortages and it was necessary to hold the meat indexes unchanged in a number of cities.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO JULY 1946
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	June 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1945	May 1943	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	"Hold the Line"*	Wage Base Date *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	5.8	9.0	9.0	12.7	39.9	43.0
Baltimore, Md.	5.3	7.4	7.7	11.4	41.8	44.7
Birmingham, Ala.	5.0	7.3	7.0	13.9	41.0	45.5
Boston, Mass.	7.6	9.4	9.5	12.5	38.8	41.7
Buffalo, N. Y.	5.1	7.8	7.7	8.2	36.8	41.5
Chicago, Ill.	7.7	9.7	10.2	13.3	39.3	42.9
Cincinnati, Ohio	5.9	8.1	8.3	13.1	40.6	43.9
Cleveland, Ohio	5.9	8.7	8.8	12.3	40.9	43.7
Denver, Colo.	4.6	7.8	7.9	10.8	37.8	39.8
Detroit, Mich.	5.6	10.2	9.8	13.2	42.7	46.3
Houston, Texas	4.2	6.7	6.8	9.3	33.3	35.1
Kansas City, Mo.	5.3	7.0	6.8	11.3	38.5	38.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	4.3	8.7	8.3	12.8	38.4	41.2
Minneapolis, Minn.	6.5	10.2	10.3	13.1	35.4	38.2
New York, N. Y.	5.8	10.0	10.5	15.7	42.3	45.2
Philadelphia, Pa.	5.6	9.0	9.0	12.1	41.0	43.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	5.9	9.2	9.6	14.3	41.0	45.0
St. Louis, Mo.	6.3	9.8	9.4	12.5	38.1	42.2
San Francisco, Calif.	4.4	7.7	8.6	12.3	41.4	44.9
Savannah, Ga.	5.8	8.0	7.5	12.7	46.6	49.7
Seattle, Wash.	4.1	7.5	7.3	10.1	39.7	42.2
Washington, D. C.	4.9	8.8	8.8	13.4	40.4	42.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, JULY 1946

Page 6
July 1946

(Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
				Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	141.0	165.7	157.9	113.3	92.1	133.7	156.9	127.8
Atlanta, Ga.	--	161.5	--	115.7	82.8	146.0	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	142.8	170.5	162.6	116.2	96.5	132.2	160.1	125.6
Birmingham, Ala.	143.3	166.6	154.5	113.0	79.6	138.0	153.5	128.5
Boston, Mass.	137.6	161.9	155.0	121.2	102.3	131.5	150.0	121.9
Buffalo, N.Y.	139.4	157.9	157.0	114.9	94.9	132.7	154.1	130.3
Chicago, Ill.	141.0	168.4	151.8	104.6	83.5	126.5	147.0	124.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	140.0	161.6	154.0	111.5	90.8	131.2	153.5	130.1
Cleveland, Ohio	143.7	171.3	153.2	117.2	104.9	129.1	151.6	127.9
Denver, Colo.	137.8	161.8	150.3	99.7	77.3	126.2	172.1	125.5
Detroit, Mich.	144.1	166.9	154.4	115.8	84.1	139.8	164.6	138.8
Houston, Texas	136.0	160.4	150.8	88.7	81.8	107.2	154.4	126.8
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	159.9	--	117.0	86.6	134.8	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	170.6	--	118.1	92.8	140.1	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	136.3	154.4	149.7	118.5	95.3	139.5	150.2	129.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	141.9	171.2	151.9	92.5	91.0	99.8	150.9	129.3
Manchester, N.H.	--	161.5	--	124.0	96.1	137.9	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	174.6	--	110.0	77.0	128.3	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	167.4	--	116.2	93.6	131.6	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	137.8	160.9	157.7	107.2	78.9	125.8	152.8	126.6
Mobile, Ala.	--	163.8	--	106.1	83.8	124.2	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	180.6	--	103.0	77.1	129.9	--	--
New York, N.Y.	143.7	168.9	172.7	116.4	95.2	149.1	154.5	129.8
Norfolk, Va.	--	164.5	--	121.5	94.9	142.5	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	139.9	160.8	155.9	119.8	92.5	140.6	158.7	125.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	142.7	167.6	178.2	115.8	103.2	137.4	156.5	123.3
Portland, Maine	--	160.8	--	118.6	98.7	128.7	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	175.8	--	121.4	88.0	162.3	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	154.0	--	111.7	94.2	122.4	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	139.5	169.7	154.8	109.9	97.2	121.2	135.4	122.7
San Francisco Calif.	143.9	172.1	153.5	86.1	77.7	114.1	132.2	137.3
Savannah, Ga.	148.7	180.1	154.1	113.8	91.2	127.5	169.7	132.9
Scranton, Pa.	--	168.4	--	127.7	91.8	149.6	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	142.6	167.1	153.4	106.6	83.9	125.6	152.4	135.2
Washington, D. C.	140.3	164.8	176.9	116.1	94.4	130.5	154.7	132.9

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

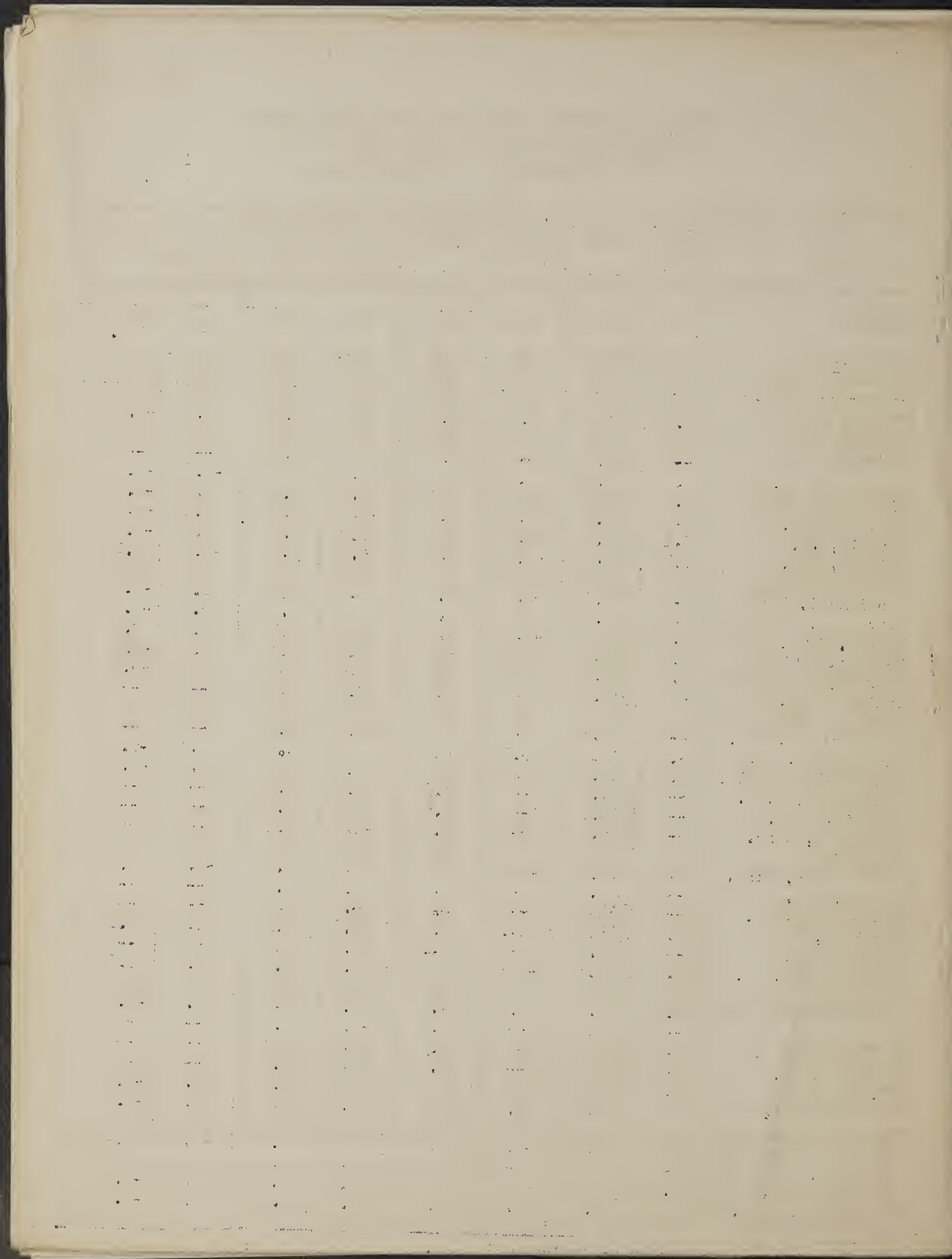
TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM JUNE, 1946 TO JULY, 1946

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House Furnishings	Misc.
				Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	5.8	13.8	0.4	2.5	0.0	4.1	0.5	-0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	--	1/14.5	--	1.6	0.0	2.4	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	5.3	11.9	0.7	3.6	0.0	5.8	-0.6	-0.2
Birmingham, Ala.	5.0	12.8	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	1.9	-0.3
Boston, Mass.	7.6	2/17.3	0.7	2.5	-0.1	3.6	0.4	-0.1
Buffalo, N.Y.	5.1	12.6	0.5	5.5	0.0	9.3	0.5	-0.5
Chicago, Ill.	7.7	2/17.9	-0.2	1.9	0.0	3.1	-0.5	0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	5.9	14.3	-0.1	1.1	0.0	1.9	1.8	-0.2
Cleveland, Ohio	5.9	14.7	0.6	2.0	0.0	3.5	0.3	-0.2
Denver, Colo.	4.6	11.4	-0.6	1.4	0.0	2.4	0.1	0.2
Detroit, Mich.	5.6	2/14.8	0	3.5	0.0	5.1	0.2	-0.5
Houston, Texas	4.2	11.4	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.1	-0.3
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	2/13.0	--	3.7	0.0	5.2	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	2/13.1	--	0.3	0.0	0.5	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	5.3	2/14.5	0.1	3.6	0.0	5.8	0.1	-0.5
Los Angeles, Calif.	4.3	10.6	0.4	0	0.0	0	1.2	-0.6
Manchester, N. H.	--	11.8	--	1.6	0.0	2.2	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	13.7	--	2.4	0.0	3.3	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	16.0	--	2.9	-1.5	5.2	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	6.5	17.0	-0.2	3.5	0.0	5.0	-0.4	0.2
Mobilé, Ala.	--	2/9.3	--	0.4	0.0	0.7	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	2/14.6	--	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
New York, N.Y.	5.8	2/13.2	1.2	2.5	0.6	4.4	1.2	0.1
Norfolk, Va.	--	12.7	--	1.2	0.0	1.8	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	5.6	12.1	-0.1	4.2	0.0	6.4	0.1	0.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	5.9	13.9	1.4	1.5	0.1	3.2	0.8	-0.2
Portland, Maine	--	16.2	--	2.3	-0.2	3.3	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	11.0	--	0.1	0.1	0.1	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	2/11.3	--	1.3	0.0	1.8	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	6.3	15.1	0.1	1.1	0.0	1.9	0.4	-0.6
San Francisco, Calif.	4.4	10.7	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.8	0.2	-0.4
Savannah, Ga.	5.8	1/13.6	-0.1	1.2	0.0	1.6	-1.5	0.1
Scranton, Pa.	--	2/16.9	--	6.4	0.0	9.0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	4.1	2/10.2	-0.3	0.8	0.0	1.3	0.4	-0.4
Washington, D. C.	4.9	13.3	0.7	3.5	0.0	5.3	0.9	-0.2

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

1/ Some of this advance may have occurred between mid-April and mid-June when meat indexes were held unchanged because of severe shortages.

2/ Some of this advance may have occurred between mid-May and mid-June when meat indexes were held unchanged because of severe shortages.



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Washington 25, D.C.

Mann - 659

CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - AUGUST 15, 1946

Consumers' Prices Increased 1.9 Percent Between July 15 and August 15

Completed figures on the consumers' price index for August 15 are released today. Preliminary figures were released on September 10. Following is the completed record for the middle of August.

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Retail prices of goods and services important in the purchases of moderate-income city families rose 1.9 percent between mid-July and mid-August, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. On August 15, 1946 the consumers' price index was 143.7 percent of the 1935-39 average. Higher prices were reported for all major groups of items in the family budget, with the continued rise in food prices the principal cause of this increase. Food prices advanced 3.3 percent; other living essentials increased 0.7 percent on the average. Mid-August retail prices were 7.8 percent higher than in mid-June, before the withdrawal of subsidies and the lapse of OPA controls, and 11.1 percent higher than a year ago on V-J Day. When these prices were obtained the Decontrol Board had not yet taken any action concerning the prices for meats, dairy products, and fats and oils.

Food costs in large cities rose 3.3 percent on the average between mid-July and mid-August and were 17.6 percent higher than in mid-June. Prices of fats and oils averaged 43 percent above June 18 levels and meats, most of which were subsidized before July 1, advanced 39 percent during this two-month period (see note).

Prices for all foods except fresh fruits and vegetables rose 6.1 percent between mid-July and mid-August; while fresh fruit and vegetables -- which are usually lower in mid-summer -- dropped 8.1 percent. Between July and August prices for fats and oils jumped 31 percent, chiefly because of a 64 percent rise in lard prices. Meats were in good supply in retail stores in August and prices advanced 7.4 percent over July, with pork rising 21 percent and lamb 10 percent. Cereal and bakery products increased 7.4 percent, reflecting higher ceiling prices allowed by OPA; eggs continued to rise seasonally. Seasonally lower prices were reported for onions (26 percent), apples (14 percent), and potatoes, green beans, and sweet potatoes 10 percent each.

NOTE: Price changes following the new ceilings on meat prices, which became effective on September 10, will be reflected in the September index if meat supplies are large enough to provide an adequate sample of prices. If a shortage of meats develops again, meat prices will be held constant in the index in those cities where it is impossible to obtain an adequate number of price quotations. This is the same procedure that was used in May and June when the usual number of meat prices was not available.

Clothing prices rose 1.1 percent between July and August, mainly because of higher prices for cotton clothing, shoes, shoe repairs, and women's coats. Costs of housefurnishings and miscellaneous goods and services increased 0.3 and 0.9 percent, respectively. Sharp price advances were reported for cook stoves, sheets, wool and cotton blankets, tobacco products and gasoline in most cities.

Rate reductions in early August lowered the average cost of electricity to consumers in New York. Fuel oil prices, uncontrolled after June 30, rose in all cities as supplies were short; crude oil prices advanced. A slight rise in coal prices resulted from a July 1 freight rate increase.

The rent index rose 0.2 percent from June 15 to August 15 as the first rental surveys since the temporary lapse of OPA controls were completed for 16 cities. Residential rents in the 16 cities surveyed this period rose 0.4 percent on the average. In computing the total rent index for all cities, rents were treated as unchanged for the remaining 18 cities.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics obtains its figures on rents by asking tenants in a large sample of homes what rent they pay. The samples represent all tenant dwellings, new and old, small and large, from single homes to apartments. These rents are then compared with those reported by the tenants for the same dwellings at the last visit. The figures therefore represent rents paid for the same dwellings and the same services from one time to another; they do not take into account rentals for newly constructed dwellings. These figures do not reflect changes in sales prices of homes, the housing costs of the worker who has migrated, nor do they take into account the additional costs of the "extras" or premiums charged by some landlords when they rent to new tenants. The figures represent average changes in rents for the same dwellings whose tenants have not had to pay for major items of maintenance or repair out of their own pockets.

Automobiles, radios, sewing and washing machines, refrigerators and vacuum cleaners are now being priced by the Bureau and will be reintroduced in the consumers' price index in September if sufficient price quotations are available. They will be reintroduced by making direct comparisons with prices of similar goods in December 1941.

(end)

GENERAL EXPLANATION

*Note: The "consumers" price index for moderate-income families in large cities, formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose income average \$1524 in 1934-36.

The index only partially shows the wartime effects of changes in quality, availability of consumer goods, etc. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the index for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If small cities were included in the national average, another 1/2 point would be added. If account is also taken of continued deterioration of quality and disappearance of low-priced merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, the over-all adjustment for the period January 1941 to September 1945 would total approximately 5 points. Merchandise of prewar quality is appearing again in retail stores and quantities of these goods are becoming large enough to price regularly, so that direct comparisons with prewar prices of such merchandise are made in computing the consumers' price index. If prices of prewar merchandise for most articles have been available for use in the index by the end of 1946, as now seems likely, most of this 5 point adjustment will no longer be applicable at that time.

Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 3, which have been estimated for January 1.

Wage Base Date. January 1, 1941 is the base date for determining allowable "cost of living" wage increased under the "Little Steel" formula and under the wage-price policy of February 1946. January 1, 1941 indexes in Tables 1 and 3 have been estimated by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

Hold-the-Line. The President's "hold-the-line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is therefore used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1946 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

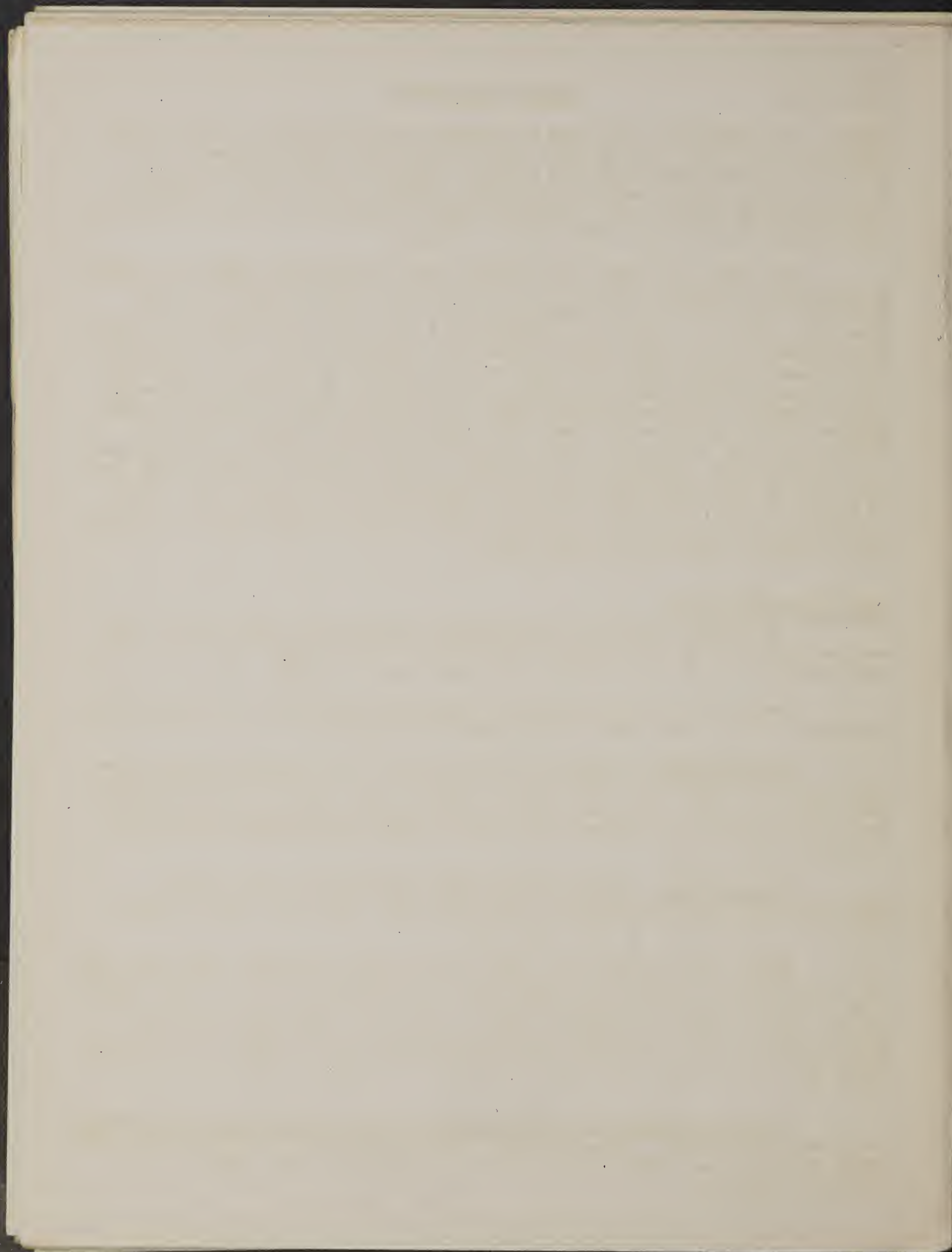


TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Aug. 1946	July 1946	Aug. 1945	May 1943	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago V-J	"Hold the Line" *	Wage Base Date *	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	143.7	141.0	129.3	125.1	100.8	98.6
Food	171.2	165.7	140.9	143.0	97.6	93.5
Clothing	159.7	157.9	146.4	127.9	101.2	100.3
Rents	108.7	--	--	108.0	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	113.7	113.3	111.4	107.6	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	91.8	92.1	95.2	96.1	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	134.9	133.7	127.2	118.7	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	158.1	156.9	146.0	125.1	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	129.0	127.8	124.5	115.3	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to August 1946

ALL ITEMS	--	1.9	11.1	14.9	42.6	45.7
Food	--	3.3	21.5	19.7	75.4	83.1
Clothing	--	1.1	9.1	24.9	57.8	59.2
Rent	--	<u>1/</u> 0.2	--	0.6	3.5	4.2
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	0.4	2.1	5.7	12.8	16.6
Gas & electricity	--	-0.3	-3.6	-4.5	-5.8	-7.3
Other fuels & ice	--	0.9	6.1	13.6	29.7	40.1
Housefurnishings	--	0.8	8.3	26.4	57.8	57.2
Miscellaneous	--	0.9	3.6	11.9	26.7	28.5

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Percent change from June 1946.

TABLE 2 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Aug. 13 1946 This Month	July 16 1946 Last Month	Aug. 14 1945 Year Ago V-J	May 18 1943 "Hold the Line"*	Jan. 14 1941 Wage Base Date * 1/	Aug. 15 1939 Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100						
ALL FOODS	171.2	165.7	140.9	143.0	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	135.4	126.1	109.1	107.6	94.9	93.4
Meats	186.6	173.7	131.8	138.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	180.3	175.2	118.5	131.2	109.4	99.6
Pork	132.4	150.3	112.6	125.5	86.1	88.0
Lamb	189.5	171.6	136.4	141.6	98.7	98.8
Chickens	175.2	178.2	157.3	147.6	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	237.6	205.2	217.8	200.5	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	180.1	179.1	133.4	136.9	105.1	93.1
Eggs	173.6	161.0	171.4	142.1	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	178.3	138.4	183.5	190.8	93.3	92.4
Fresh	185.8	202.1	196.2	205.8	93.4	92.8
Canned	140.7	130.9	130.3	131.1	91.4	91.6
Dried	183.0	175.9	168.6	158.0	99.6	90.3
Beverages	126.6	126.0	124.7	124.5	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	180.3	137.9	124.0	126.3	80.3	34.5
Sugar & sweets	140.3	138.5	126.6	127.6	95.3	95.6
Percent Change to August 1946						
ALL FOODS	--	3.3	21.5	19.7	75.1	83.1
Cereals & bakery products	--	7.4	21.1	25.8	42.7	45.0
Meats	--	7.4	41.6	34.9	64.6	95.0
Beef & veal	--	2.9	52.2	37.4	64.8	81.0
Pork	--	21.4	62.0	45.3	111.8	107.3
Lamb	--	10.4	38.9	33.8	92.0	91.8
Chickens	--	-1.7	11.4	18.7	80.2	85.2
Fish, fresh & canned	--	1.0	9.1	18.5	100.2	138.6
Dairy products	--	0.6	35.0	31.6	71.4	93.4
Eggs	--	7.3	1.3	22.2	78.2	91.4
Fruits & vegetables	--	-5.4	-2.8	-6.6	91.1	93.0
Fresh	--	-8.1	-5.3	-9.7	98.9	100.2
Canned	--	7.5	8.0	7.3	53.9	53.6
Dried	--	4.0	8.5	15.3	83.7	102.7
Beverages	--	0.5	1.5	1.7	39.3	33.4
Fats & oils	--	30.7	45.4	42.8	124.5	113.4
Sugar & sweets	--	1.3	10.8	10.0	47.2	46.8

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ The wage formulas apply to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO AUGUST 1946
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	July 1946	Aug. 1945	May 1943	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago V-J	"Hold the Line"*	Wage Base Date *	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	1.9	11.1	14.9	42.6	45.7
Baltimore, Md.	2.5	10.3	14.1	45.3	48.2
Birmingham, Ala.	3.7	11.0	18.1	46.3	50.9
Boston, Mass.	1.7	11.3	14.4	41.2	44.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.8	9.7	10.2	39.3	44.1
Chicago, Ill.	1.8	12.3	15.3	41.9	45.5
Cincinnati, Ohio	2.0	10.4	15.3	43.4	46.8
Cleveland, Ohio	2.2	11.1	14.7	43.9	46.8
Denver, Colo.	1.5	9.5	12.4	39.8	41.8
Detroit, Mich.	0.8	10.7	14.1	43.8	47.4
Houston, Tex.	2.8	9.7	12.4	37.1	38.8
Kansas City, Mo.	2.9	9.9	14.4	42.5	42.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.5	9.9	14.5	40.5	43.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.9	11.4	14.2	36.6	39.5
New York, N. Y.	1.1	11.8	17.0	43.9	46.8
Philadelphia, Pa.	2.6	11.8	15.0	44.7	46.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	2.0	11.8	16.6	43.9	48.0
St. Louis, Mo.	2.0	11.6	14.8	40.9	45.1
San Francisco, Calif.	2.3	11.1	14.9	44.6	48.2
Savannah, Ga.	2.5	10.2	15.5	50.3	53.5
Seattle, Wash.	1.1	8.4	11.3	41.1	43.7
Washington, D. C.	1.3	10.2	14.9	42.2	44.1

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, AUGUST 1946

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- lane- ous
					Total	Gas & Elec- tricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	143.7	171.2	159.7	108.7	113.7	91.8	134.9	158.1	129.0
Atlanta, Ga.	--	174.1	--	--	115.3	82.9	146.0	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	146.3	178.0	164.1	106.9	113.4	96.5	132.4	164.2	127.1
Birmingham, Ala.	148.6	180.8	155.2	122.6	113.0	79.6	138.0	154.0	128.8
Boston, Mass.	139.9	165.2	157.9	105.4	124.0	102.4	135.6	151.7	124.3
Buffalo, N. Y.	141.9	162.8	160.0	113.2	114.9	94.9	132.7	155.4	132.0
Chicago, Ill.	143.6	174.0	153.0	--	105.7	83.5	128.8	147.7	125.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	142.8	168.6	154.3	106.4	112.1	90.8	132.4	153.4	130.4
Cleveland, Ohio	146.8	178.6	154.2	116.1	117.2	104.9	129.1	152.6	129.2
Denver, Colo.	139.8	166.3	149.5	110.6	99.7	77.3	126.2	176.1	126.6
Detroit, Mich.	145.2	163.5	155.1	115.9	113.5	84.1	141.0	165.0	139.9
Houston, Texas	139.8	168.8	152.9	111.3	88.6	81.8	106.7	156.7	128.0
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	170.8	--	--	117.0	86.6	134.8	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	181.5	--	--	118.2	92.8	140.2	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	140.2	164.3	151.2	--	118.5	95.3	139.5	151.9	131.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	144.0	175.1	154.1	111.7	92.5	91.0	99.8	151.5	130.5
Manchester, N. H.	--	168.7	--	--	128.0	96.2	143.8	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	187.5	--	--	110.1	77.0	128.5	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	163.3	--	--	115.9	93.6	131.1	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	139.1	163.3	159.0	111.0	107.6	78.9	126.4	155.3	127.3
Mobile, Ala.	--	175.5	--	--	106.1	83.8	124.1	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	188.8	--	--	103.0	77.1	130.1	--	--
New York, N. Y.	145.3	171.0	176.2	--	115.8	93.8	149.8	155.4	131.5
Norfolk, Va.	--	176.6	--	--	121.5	94.9	142.5	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	143.5	169.2	156.4	107.3	119.8	92.5	140.6	160.0	126.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	145.6	174.0	179.8	--	115.9	103.2	137.6	158.0	124.9
Portland, Maine	--	166.5	--	--	121.4	99.2	132.6	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	182.1	--	--	122.2	87.9	164.2	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	164.1	--	--	111.7	94.2	122.4	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	142.3	175.5	156.0	106.2	110.3	97.2	121.9	138.2	124.1
San Francisco, Calif.	147.2	180.6	153.8	106.7	132.3	172.7	114.9	132.4	138.0
Savannah, Ga.	152.4	187.2	158.4	115.5	117.6	91.2	133.5	171.2	133.7
Scranton, Pa.	--	171.2	--	--	127.7	91.8	149.6	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	144.1	170.0	154.7	112.1	107.8	83.9	127.7	153.2	135.9
Washington, D. C.	142.1	169.9	177.8	--	116.5	94.4	131.2	155.4	133.4

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

1/ This index reflects a correction for a gas rate change not previously shown.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM JULY 1946 TO AUGUST 1946

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House furnishings	Misc.
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	1.9	3.3	1.1	2/0.2	0.4	-0.3	0.9	0.8	0.9
Atlanta, Ga.	--	7.8	--	--	0.1	0.1	0	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	2.5	4.4	0.9	1/0.3	0.2	0	0.2	2.6	1.2
Birmingham, Ala.	3.7	8.5	0.5	2/0.1	0	0	0	0.3	0.2
Boston, Mass.	1.7	2.0	1.9	1/0.2	2.3	0.1	3.1	1.1	2.0
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.3	3.1	1.9	2/0	0	0	0	0.3	1.3
Chicago, Ill.	1.8	3.3	0.8	--	1.1	0	1.8	0.5	1.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	2.0	4.3	0.2	1/0.3	0.5	0	0.9	-0.1	0.2
Cleveland, Ohio	2.2	4.3	0.7	1/0.3	0	0	0	0.7	1.0
Denver, Colo.	1.5	2.3	-0.5	2/0.3	0	0	0	2.3	0.9
Detroit, Mich.	0.3	1.0	0.5	2/0.6	0.6	0	0.9	0.2	0.8
Houston, Texas	2.8	5.2	1.4	1/1.9	-0.1	0	-0.5	1.5	0.9
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	6.8	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	6.4	--	--	0.1	0	0.1	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	2.9	6.4	1.0	--	0	0	0	1.1	1.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.5	2.3	1.4	2/0.4	0	0	0	0.4	0.9
Manchester, N. H.	--	4.5	--	--	3.2	0.1	4.3	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	7.4	--	--	0.1	0	0.2	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	0.5	--	--	-0.3	0	-0.4	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.9	1.5	0.8	1/0.4	0.4	0	0.5	1.6	0.6
Mobile, Ala.	--	7.1	--	--	0	0	-0.1	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	4.5	--	--	0	0	0.2	--	--
New York, N. Y.	1.1	1.2	2.0	--	-0.5	-1.5	0.5	0.6	1.3
Norfolk, Va.	--	7.4	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	2.6	5.2	0.3	1/0.1	0	0	0	0.8	0.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	2.0	3.3	0.9	--	0.1	0	0.1	1.0	1.3
Portland, Maine	--	3.5	--	--	2.4	0.5	3.0	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	3.3	--	--	0.7	-0.1	1.2	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	6.6	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	2.0	3.4	0.8	1/0.1	0.4	0	0.6	2.1	1.1
San Francisco, Calif.	2.3	4.9	0.2	1/0.3	3/4.4	3/-6.4	0.7	0.2	0.5
Savannah, Ga.	2.5	3.9	2.8	2/0	3.3	0	4.7	0.9	0.6
Scranton, Pa.	--	1.7	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	1.1	1.7	0.8	1/0.2	1.1	0	1.7	0.5	0.5
Washington, D. C.	1.3	3.1	0.5	--	0.3	0	0.5	0.5	0.4

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 2.

1/ Percent change from March 1946.

2/ Percent change from June 1946.

3/ This decrease results from a correction for a gas rate change not previously shown.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - SEPTEMBER 15, 1946

NOV 21 1946

Consumers' Prices Rose 1.2 Percent between August 15 and September 15

UNIVERSITY OF

Preliminary figures were released on October 20. The complete report for mid-September is given below

Retail prices to moderate-income city families advanced 1.2 percent between August 15 and September 15, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor. Higher prices for food, clothing, and house-furnishings were primarily responsible for this increase, but all major groups contributed to the rise. On September 15, 1946 the consumers' price index was 145.9 percent of the 1935-39 average, and 4.8 percent above the level of prices at the beginning of the war in August 1939.

Consumers' prices in mid-September were 13.2 percent higher than a year ago. Prices of living essentials advanced 1.0 percent between September 1945 and March 1946, 2.4 percent between March and June 1946, and 9.5 percent from June 15 to September 15, 1946.

The family food bill for all foods except meats increased 2.2 percent on the average between mid-August and mid-September. It was impossible in mid-September to obtain sufficient quotations to compute a reliable measure of change in retail meat prices because of the severe shortage of all meats except lamb (in a few cities) and poultry and fish. In order to meet the great demands for overall price indexes for September, August prices for beef, veal, and pork were used in computing the indexes. ^{1/} On this basis, the average advance in retail food prices in large cities was estimated at 1.7 percent between mid-August and mid-September. The retail food price index would have dropped 1.5 percent if consumers had been able to buy beef, veal, lamb, and pork at the OPA ceilings established on September 10. If this had happened, the total consumers' price index would have declined about $1\frac{1}{2}$ percent instead of advancing 1.2 percent.

Between mid-August and mid-September beverage prices rose 28 percent, reflecting adjustments to new OPA ceiling prices for coffee. Egg prices advanced 11 percent, and canned fruits and vegetables averaged 6 percent higher as new packs of pineapple and tomatoes at higher ceilings became available. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices dropped further by 2.5 percent after having fallen 8 percent between mid-July and mid-August. Prices of fats and oils declined 16 percent after the restoration of ceilings by the Decontrol Board in early September.

^{1/} This is the same type of procedure used during May and June when the meat shortage was also severe. August meat prices will be used in the index again in October if an adequate number of price quotations were not obtained between October 14 and October 18. If supplies are large enough to provide an adequate sample of prices in November, the November index will reflect the over-all change that has occurred in the price of meat between mid-August and mid-November. There are no figures to describe what happened to retail meat prices in the intervening period.

Clothing prices advanced 2.9 percent during the month -- the largest monthly increase since early 1942. Higher prices were reported for nearly all clothing and shoes, with cotton garments including work clothing, shorts, and business shirts advancing sharply. In many cities men's overcoats and heavy knit underwear, and women's coats and other wool clothing retailed at generally higher levels as fall lines came into stores.

Fuel, electricity and ice costs increased 0.7 percent on the average as higher prices for anthracite and bituminous coal offset a reduction in the average cost of electricity to consumers in Kansas City.

The rent index rose 0.1 percent between August 15 and September 15. Residential rents in the 18 cities surveyed in September were 0.1 percent higher than in June.

Housefurnishings prices advanced 2.5 percent over the month as prices for cook stoves, living room and bedroom sets, and sheets and towels increased. Miscellaneous goods and services costs rose 0.6 percent because of higher prices for household cleaning supplies, gasoline, and some medical services.

Automobiles and a number of household durable goods which had been eliminated from the index during the war, such as sewing and washing machines, refrigerators and vacuum cleaners, were reintroduced into the index in September. These reintroductions and the return of gasoline and motor oil to their full pre-war consumption patterns have caused the September indexes for the housefurnishings and miscellaneous groups to be 3.5 and 0.1 percent higher than the August indexes. (See technical notes.)

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES. BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Sept. 1945	Aug. 1945	May 1943	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	"Hold the Line"*	Wage Base Date	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS.	145.9	R 144.1	128.9	129.3	125.1	100.8	98.6
Food	174.1	171.2	139.4	140.9	143.0	97.6	93.5
Clothing	165.9	R 161.2	148.2	146.4	127.9	101.2	100.3
Rent	108.8	108.7	108.3	--	108.0	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	114.4	113.7	110.7	111.4	107.6	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	91.7	91.8	95.2	95.2	96.1	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	136.5	R 135.0	125.7	127.2	118.7	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	165.6	R 160.0	146.8	146.0	125.1	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	129.9	R 129.8	124.6	124.5	115.3	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to September 1946

ALL ITEMS	--	1/ 1.2	13.2	12.8	16.6	44.7	48.0
Food	--	1.7	24.9	23.6	21.7	78.4	86.2
Clothing	--	2.9	11.9	13.3	29.7	63.9	65.4
Rent	--	0.1	0.5	--	0.7	3.6	4.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	1/ 0.6	3.3	2.7	6.3	13.5	17.3
Gas & electricity	--	-0.1	-3.7	-3.7	-4.6	-5.9	-7.4
Other fuels & ice	--	1/ 1.1	8.6	7.3	15.0	31.2	41.7
Housefurnishings	--	1/ 3.5	12.8	13.4	32.4	65.3	64.6
Miscellaneous	--	1/ 0.1	4.3	4.3	12.7	27.6	29.4

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Percentage changes for those goods and services in the index between August and September before the reintroduction of consumers' durable goods: all items 1.3 percent; fuel, electricity and ice 0.7 percent; other fuels and ice 1.1 percent; housefurnishings 2.5 percent; and miscellaneous 0.6 percent.

R - Revised

TABLE 2 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED* September 1946
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Sept. 17 1946	Aug. 13 1946	Sept. 18 1945	Aug. 14 1945	May 18 1943	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	"Hold the Line"*	Wage Base Date * 2/	Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100							
ALL FOODS	174.1	171.2	139.4	140.9	143.0	97.8	93.5
Cereals & Bakery products	137.3	135.4	109.1	109.1	107.6	94.9	93.4
Meats	3/188.5	186.6	131.6	131.8	138.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	3/180.3	180.3	118.4	118.5	131.2	109.4	99.6
Pork	3/182.4	182.4	112.6	112.6	125.5	86.1	88.0
Lamb	3/187.5	189.5	136.4	136.4	141.6	98.7	98.8
Chickens	192.8	175.2	155.9	157.3	147.6	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	237.8	237.6	219.8	217.8	200.5	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	186.6	180.1	133.4	133.4	136.9	105.1	93.1
Eggs	193.3	173.6	183.9	171.4	142.1	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	176.4	178.3	172.5	183.5	190.8	93.3	92.4
Fresh	181.1	185.8	182.3	196.2	205.8	93.4	92.8
Canned	148.7	140.7	130.4	130.3	131.1	91.4	91.6
Dried	185.6	183.0	168.8	168.6	158.0	99.6	90.3
Beverages	162.0	126.6	124.7	124.7	124.5	80.3	94.9
Fats & oils	151.4	180.3	124.1	124.0	126.3	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	141.5	140.3	126.5	126.6	127.6	95.3	95.6
Percent Change to Sept. 17, 1946							
ALL FOODS	--	1.7	24.9	23.6	21.7	78.0	86.2
Cereals & bakery products	--	1.4	25.8	25.8	27.6	44.7	47.0
Meats	--	3/ 1.0	43.2	43.0	36.3	86.4	97.0
Beef & veal	--	3/ 0	52.3	52.2	37.4	64.8	81.0
Pork	--	3/ 0	62.0	62.0	45.3	111.8	107.3
Lamb	--	3/-1.1	37.5	37.5	32.4	90.0	89.8
Chickens	--	10.0	23.7	22.6	30.6	98.4	103.8
Fish, fresh & canned	--	0.1	8.2	9.2	18.6	100.3	138.8
Dairy products	--	3.6	39.9	39.9	36.3	77.5	100.4
Eggs	--	11.3	5.1	12.8	36.0	98.5	113.1
Fruits & vegetables	--	-1.1	2.3	-3.9	-7.5	89.1	90.9
Fresh	--	-2.5	-0.7	-7.7	-12.0	93.9	95.2
Canned	--	5.7	14.0	14.1	13.4	62.7	62.3
Dried	--	1.4	10.0	10.1	17.5	86.3	105.5
Beverages	--	28.0	29.9	29.9	30.1	78.2	70.7
Fats & oils	--	-16.0	22.0	22.1	19.9	88.5	79.2
Sugar & sweets	--	0.9	11.9	11.8	10.9	48.5	48.0

1/ Preliminary.

2/ The wage formulas apply to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

3/ Because of insufficient quotations in Sept., prices of beef, veal, and pork in all 56 cities, of leg of lamb in 44 cities and of lamb rib chops in 46 cities, were held unchanged from August levels in computing indexes.

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO SEPTEMBER 1946
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	WITH REINTRODUCTIONS 1/						Without Reintro- ductions 2
	Aug. 1946	Sept. 1945	Aug. 1945	May 1943	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939	Aug. 1946
	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J Day	"Hold the Line"*	"Little Steel"*	Month Before War in Europe	Last Month
AVERAGE	1.2	13.2	12.8	16.6	44.7	48.0	1.3
Atlanta, Ga.	-	11.4	11.6	17.3	46.8	49.5	-
Baltimore, Md.	1.0	11.9	11.7	15.5	47.1	50.1	0.8
Birmingham, Ala.	-1.0	10.6	9.9	16.9	44.8	49.3	-0.4
Boston, Mass.	1.1	13.6	12.6	15.8	42.9	45.8	1.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.9	12.8	12.0	12.5	42.2	47.1	1.4
Chicago, Ill.	1.5	14.6	14.2	17.3	-	48.0	1.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.3	12.8	12.5	17.4	46.0	49.4	1.3
Cleveland, Ohio	0.4	12.3	11.7	15.3	44.7	47.6	0.5
Denver, Colo.	1.7	12.6	11.6	14.5	42.5	44.5	1.6
Detroit, Mich.	0.8	12.1	11.7	15.2	45.1	48.8	0.8
Houston, Tex.	1.5	11.9	12.1	14.8	40.0	41.8	1.6
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	12.8	12.4	16.1	43.2	49.1	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	8.7	9.1	15.5	47.4	52.5	-
Kansas City, Mo.	0.5	11.1	10.6	15.2	43.4	43.1	0.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.6	10.2	11.1	15.7	42.0	44.8	1.0
Manchester, N. H.	-	13.1	12.0	14.8	46.7	50.3	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	11.1	10.3	14.6	46.5	49.5	-
Milwaukee, Wis.	-	12.8	12.5	15.3	44.0	47.2	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	2.1	13.8	14.0	16.9	39.9	42.8	2.2
Mobile, Ala.	-	11.2	10.2	13.7	44.6	47.3	-
New Orleans, La.	-	14.4	14.3	18.5	51.2	54.3	-
New York, N. Y.	2.5	15.4	14.9	20.3	47.9	50.9	2.6
Norfolk, Va.	-	11.8	11.3	12.8	47.9	52.1	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.6	14.1	13.7	17.0	47.2	49.3	1.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.0	13.5	13.2	18.0	45.7	49.8	1.3
Portland, Maine	-	12.7	11.3	13.8	43.6	45.6	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	11.5	11.1	15.2	47.9	50.7	-
Richmond, Va.	-	10.8	10.9	13.5	40.4	42.7	-
St. Louis, Mo.	0.3	12.7	12.1	15.2	41.5	45.7	0.6
San Francisco, Calif.	2.0	13.8	13.9	17.8	48.2	52.0	2.2
Savannah, Ga.	0.7	11.2	11.2	16.6	51.7	54.9	1.2
Scranton, Pa.	-	15.4	14.7	16.9	47.6	52.5	-
Seattle, Wash.	2.1	11.7	11.3	14.2	44.9	47.5	2.1
Washington, D. C.	1.7	12.3	12.5	17.2	45.1	47.1	1.8

*See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Percentage changes given in these columns computed using the September 1946 indexes with adjustments for reintroduction of consumers' durable goods.

2/ Percentage changes given in this column for the goods and services in the index between August and September before the reintroduction of consumers' durable goods.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES,
JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER 1/ 1946

(Note: Some indexes for September and August revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

WITH REINTRODUCTIONS IN SEPTEMBER

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
AVERAGE									
July	141.2	165.7	158.7	-	113.3	92.1	133.8	157.9	128.2
August	144.1	171.2	161.2	108.7	113.7	91.8	135.0	160.0	129.8
September	145.9	174.1	165.9	108.8	114.4	91.7	136.5	165.6	129.9
Atlanta									
July	-	161.5	-	-	115.7	82.8	146.0	-	-
August	-	174.1	-	-	115.8	82.9	146.0	-	-
September	146.5	173.4	162.6	107.7	116.3	82.9	147.0	165.4	137.1
Baltimore									
July	143.2	170.5	163.1	-	116.3	96.5	132.4	160.9	127.0
August	146.7	178.0	165.1	106.9	116.6	96.5	132.9	165.4	128.6
September	148.1	180.1	166.1	-	117.6	96.5	134.6	171.8	128.9
Birmingham									
July	143.3	166.6	154.8	-	113.0	79.6	138.0	152.8	128.5
August	148.6	180.8	155.9	122.6	113.0	79.6	138.0	152.4	128.9
September	147.1	176.6	161.1	-	114.1	79.6	140.1	150.5	126.1
Boston									
July	137.6	161.9	155.1	-	121.2	102.3	131.5	149.9	122.0
August	140.0	165.2	158.0	105.4	124.0	102.4	135.6	151.6	124.9
September	141.6	168.0	161.8	-	124.2	102.5	135.9	155.4	124.6
Buffalo									
July	139.6	157.9	157.5	-	114.9	94.9	132.7	154.9	130.7
August	142.2	162.8	161.0	115.2	114.9	94.9	132.7	157.1	132.6
September	144.9	164.7	167.6	-	116.2	94.9	135.2	174.2	134.1
Chicago									
July	141.1	168.4	152.9	-	104.6	83.5	126.5	148.5	124.9
August	144.0	174.0	155.0	-	105.7	83.5	128.7	150.7	126.6
September	146.1	176.2	162.4	116.0	105.9	83.5	129.2	157.1	127.6
Cincinnati									
July	140.2	161.6	155.2	-	111.5	90.8	131.2	155.8	130.2
August	143.5	168.6	156.9	106.4	112.1	90.8	132.4	158.0	131.5
September	145.4	169.3	164.0	-	113.3	90.8	134.8	167.6	132.1
Cleveland									
July	143.8	171.3	153.5	-	117.2	104.9	129.1	151.9	128.1
August	147.0	178.6	154.7	116.1	117.2	104.9	129.1	153.3	129.6
September	147.6	179.3	156.8	-	118.1	104.9	131.0	153.9	129.7

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.
See page 11 for footnote.

TABLE 4 - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*

INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER 1/ 1946(Note: Some indexes for July and August revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

WITH REINTRODUCTIONS IN SEPTEMBER

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
Denver									
July	138.1	161.8	150.7	-	99.7	77.3	126.1	173.0	126.3
August	140.1	166.3	150.5	110.6	99.7	77.3	126.1	177.9	127.5
September	142.5	170.1	154.3	-	100.7	77.3	128.3	184.6	128.7
Detroit									
July	144.2	166.9	154.7	-	115.9	84.1	139.9	165.2	138.8
August	145.4	168.5	155.7	115.9	116.5	84.1	141.0	166.2	140.3
September	146.6	168.4	161.6	-	117.5	84.1	142.8	173.2	141.1
Houston									
July	136.6	160.4	152.3	-	88.8	81.8	107.4	154.9	128.1
August	140.7	168.8	155.2	111.3	88.7	81.8	107.1	157.6	130.0
September	142.8	173.5	159.4	-	88.8	81.8	107.3	166.3	128.8
Indianapolis									
July	-	159.9	-	-	117.0	86.6	134.9	-	-
August	-	170.8	-	-	117.0	86.6	134.9	-	-
September	146.1	172.4	156.2	116.1	118.5	86.6	137.1	158.7	132.4
Jacksonville									
July	-	170.6	-	-	118.4	92.8	140.6	-	-
August	-	181.5	-	-	118.7	92.8	141.2	-	-
September	150.2	180.7	159.4	113.4	119.2	92.8	142.2	158.5	137.6
Kansas City									
July	136.4	154.4	150.4	-	118.3	95.3	139.2	150.3	130.0
August	140.4	164.3	152.7	-	118.3	95.3	139.3	152.2	131.4
September	141.1	165.3	156.1	110.2	117.2	91.2	140.9	157.2	130.5
Los Angeles									
July	142.3	171.2	153.0	-	92.5	91.0	99.8	151.3	130.5
August	144.6	175.1	156.2	111.7	92.5	91.0	99.8	152.0	132.2
September	145.5	176.5	159.3	-	92.5	91.0	99.8	157.4	131.3
Manchester									
July	-	161.5	-	-	124.2	96.1	138.1	-	-
August	-	168.7	-	-	128.2	96.2	144.1	-	-
September	147.0	170.0	161.2	108.5	127.5	96.2	143.2	167.7	124.6
Memphis									
July	-	174.6	-	-	110.0	77.0	128.3	-	-
August	-	187.5	-	-	110.1	77.0	128.5	-	-
September	146.2	185.3	158.8	115.2	111.2	77.0	130.2	142.7	122.5

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.
See page 11 for footnote.

TABLE 4 - (Continued) CONSUMERS PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER 1/ 1946

(Note: Some indexes for July and August revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

WITH REINTRODUCTIONS IN SEPTEMBER

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
Milwaukee									
July	-	167.4	-	-	116.1	93.6	131.5	-	-
August	-	168.3	-	-	115.8	93.6	131.1	-	-
September	142.8	170.3	157.5	109.0	117.2	93.6	133.3	168.1	125.4
Minneapolis									
July	138.0	160.9	158.7	-	107.3	78.9	125.9	153.5	126.8
August	139.5	163.3	160.9	111.0	107.6	78.9	126.4	156.7	127.9
September	142.4	167.9	167.7	-	109.0	78.9	128.7	163.9	128.8
Mobile									
July	-	163.8	-	-	106.3	83.8	124.6	-	-
August	-	175.5	-	-	106.5	83.8	124.9	-	-
September	145.2	176.4	158.1	114.4	106.9	83.9	125.5	152.7	124.0
New Orleans									
July	-	180.6	-	-	103.2	77.1	130.4	-	-
August	-	188.8	-	-	103.3	77.1	130.6	-	-
September	153.8	190.7	165.1	106.9	103.4	77.1	130.7	157.7	130.0
New York									
July	143.9	168.9	173.7	-	116.4	95.2	149.0	155.6	130.0
August	145.7	171.0	178.3	-	115.8	93.8	149.7	157.6	132.1
September	149.4	178.8	182.5	103.5	116.3	93.9	150.9	163.5	132.3
Norfolk									
July	-	164.5	-	-	121.5	94.9	142.5	-	-
August	-	176.6	-	-	121.5	94.9	142.5	-	-
September	148.8	177.4	163.8	109.2	122.2	94.9	143.8	164.0	133.6
Philadelphia									
July	140.0	160.8	156.5	-	119.8	92.5	140.7	159.1	125.7
August	143.7	169.2	157.7	107.3	119.8	92.5	140.6	160.7	126.6
September	146.0	172.6	162.4	-	121.2	92.5	143.1	166.7	127.0
Pittsburgh									
July	142.8	167.6	178.9	-	115.8	103.2	137.4	157.0	123.4
August	145.9	174.0	181.3	-	115.9	103.2	137.6	159.1	125.0
September	147.4	176.9	185.4	107.6	116.9	103.3	140.2	158.3	124.9
Portland, Me.									
July	-	160.8	-	-	118.9	98.7	129.1	-	-
August	-	166.5	-	-	122.1	99.2	133.5	-	-
September	141.4	167.0	160.3	106.3	123.7	99.3	136.0	163.0	124.9

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.
See page 11 for footnote.

TABLE 4 - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER 1/ 1946

(Note: Some indexes for July and August revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

WITH REINTRODUCTIONS IN SEPTEMBER

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
Portland, Oreg.									
July	-	175.8	-	-	121.4	88.0	162.3	-	-
August	-	182.1	-	-	122.2	87.9	164.2	-	-
September	150.9	184.5	156.3	114.3	122.4	87.9	164.5	156.8	135.0
Richmond									
July	-	154.0	-	-	111.7	94.2	122.4	-	-
August	-	164.1	-	-	111.7	94.2	122.4	-	-
September	139.8	167.4	160.7	104.2	112.6	94.2	123.7	167.0	122.1
St. Louis									
July	139.6	169.7	155.0	-	110.0	97.2	121.3	137.8	122.8
August	142.5	175.5	156.5	-	110.0	97.2	121.9	143.2	124.3
September	142.9	174.5	162.3	106.2	111.6	97.2	124.3	144.5	124.3
San Francisco									
July	144.4	172.1	154.3	-	86.1	77.7	114.2	133.2	138.6
August	147.9	180.6	155.4	106.7	82.3	72.7	115.1	134.4	139.9
September	150.9	186.5	159.4	-	82.3	72.7	115.2	135.9	141.3
Savannah									
July	148.8	180.1	154.6	-	114.2	91.2	128.1	169.4	135.0
August	152.7	187.2	159.5	115.5	118.4	91.2	134.7	170.7	134.1
September	153.8	190.9	161.3	-	119.1	91.2	135.7	171.9	132.1
Scranton									
July	-	168.4	-	-	128.2	91.8	150.4	-	-
August	-	171.2	-	-	128.5	91.8	150.9	-	-
September	146.4	174.0	166.9	101.6	130.4	91.8	154.0	159.1	122.5
Seattle									
July	142.9	167.1	154.5	-	106.6	83.9	125.6	153.6	135.9
August	144.8	170.0	156.9	112.1	107.8	83.9	127.7	155.6	137.3
September	147.9	175.6	160.6	-	108.8	83.9	129.5	166.9	138.2
Washington									
July	140.5	164.8	177.8	-	116.1	94.4	130.5	156.0	133.4
August	142.6	169.9	179.5	-	116.5	94.4	131.2	158.0	134.3
September	145.0	174.7	183.9	100.3	117.4	94.4	132.7	162.4	134.8

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ September indexes with adjustments included for the reintroduction of consumers' durable goods.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM AUGUST TO SEPTEMBER 1946

WITH REINTRODUCTIONS IN SEPTEMBER 1/

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
				Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	1.2	1.7	2.9	0.6	-0.1	1.1	3.5	0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	-	-0.4	-	0.4	0	0.7	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	1.0	1.2	0.6	0.9	0	1.3	3.9	0.2
Birmingham, Ala.	-1.0	-2.3	3.3	1.0	0	1.5	-1.2	-2.2
Boston, Mass.	1.1	1.7	2.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	2.5	-0.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.9	1.2	4.1	1.1	0	1.9	10.9	1.1
Chicago, Ill.	1.5	1.3	4.8	0.2	0	0.4	4.2	0.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.3	0.4	4.5	1.1	0	1.8	6.1	0.5
Cleveland, Ohio	0.4	0.4	1.4	0.8	0	1.5	0.4	0.1
Denver, Colo.	1.7	2.3	2.5	1.0	0	1.7	3.8	0.9
Detroit, Mich.	0.8	-0.1	3.8	0.9	0	1.3	4.2	0.6
Houston, Texas	1.5	2.8	2.7	0.1	0	0.2	5.5	-0.9
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	0.9	-	1.3	0	1.6	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	-0.4	-	0.4	0	0.7	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	0.5	0.6	2.2	-0.9	-4.3	1.1	3.3	-0.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.6	0.8	2.0	0	0	0	3.6	-0.7
Manchester, N. H.	-	0.8	-	-0.5	0	-0.6	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	-1.2	-	1.0	0	1.3	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	1.2	-	1.2	0	1.7	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	2.1	2.8	4.2	1.3	0	1.8	4.6	0.7
Mobile, Ala.	-	0.5	-	0.4	0.1	0.5	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	1.0	-	0.1	0	0.1	-	-
New York, N. Y.	2.5	4.6	2.4	0.4	0.1	0.8	3.7	0.2
Norfolk, Va.	-	0.5	-	0.6	0	0.9	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.6	2.0	3.0	1.2	0	1.8	3.7	0.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.0	1.7	2.3	0.9	0.1	1.9	-0.5	-0.1
Portland, Maine	-	0.3	-	1.3	0.1	1.9	-	-
Portland, Ore.	-	1.3	-	0.2	0	0.2	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	2.0	-	0.8	0	1.1	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	0.3	-0.6	3.7	1.2	0	2.0	0.9	0
San Francisco, Calif.	2.0	3.3	2.6	0	0	0.1	1.1	1.0
Savannah, Ga.	0.7	2.0	1.1	0.6	0	0.7	0.7	-1.5
Scranton, Pa.	-	1.6	-	1.5	0	2.1	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	2.1	3.3	2.4	0.9	0	1.4	7.3	0.7
Washington, D. C.	1.7	2.8	2.5	0.8	0	1.1	2.8	0.4

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Percentage changes given in this table based on the August 1946 indexes and the indexes for September 1946 with adjustments for reintroduction of consumers' durable goods.

TABLE 5A - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM AUGUST TO SEPTEMBER 1946

WITHOUT REINTRODUCTIONS IN SEPTEMBER 1/

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
				Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	1.3	1.7	2.9	0.7	-0.1	1.1	2.5	0.6
Atlanta, Ga.	-	-0.4	-	0.4	0	0.7	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	0.8	1.2	0.6	0.9	0	1.3	3.3	0
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.4	-2.3	3.3	1.0	0	1.5	2.5	0.1
Boston, Mass.	1.1	1.7	2.4	0	0.1	0.1	1.9	-0.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.4	1.2	4.1	1.1	0	1.9	3.1	1.1
Chicago, Ill.	1.4	1.3	4.8	0.6	0	1.0	4.0	0.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.3	0.4	4.5	1.1	0	1.8	5.3	0.7
Cleveland, Ohio	0.5	0.4	1.4	0.8	0	1.5	3.1	0.3
Denver, Colo.	1.6	2.3	2.5	1.0	0	1.7	2.6	0.9
Detroit, Mich.	0.8	-0.1	3.8	0.9	0	1.3	1.4	1.5
Houston, Texas	1.6	2.8	2.7	0.1	0	0.2	1.4	-0.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	0.9	-	1.3	0	1.6	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	-0.4	-	0.4	0	0.7	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	0.6	0.6	2.2	-0.9	-4.3	1.1	1.4	0.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.0	0.8	2.0	0	0	0	2.8	1.1
Manchester, N. H.	-	0.8	-	0.1	0	0.1	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	-1.2	-	1.0	0	1.3	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	1.2	-	1.2	0	1.7	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	2.2	2.8	4.2	1.3	0	1.8	2.7	1.1
Mobile, Ala.	-	0.5	-	0.4	0.1	0.6	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	1.0	-	0.1	0	0.2	-	-
New York, N. Y.	2.6	4.6	2.4	0.5	0.1	0.9	3.0	0.6
Norfolk, Va.	-	0.5	-	0.6	0	0.9	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.5	2.0	3.0	1.2	0	1.8	1.5	0.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.3	1.7	2.3	0.9	0.1	1.9	1.9	0.6
Portland, Maine	-	0.3	-	0.3	0.1	0.5	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	1.3	-	0.2	0	0.2	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	2.0	-	0.8	0	1.1	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	0.6	-0.6	3.7	1.2	0	2.0	3.8	0.8
San Francisco, Calif.	2.2	3.3	2.6	0	0	0.2	2.9	1.1
Savannah, Ga.	1.2	2.0	1.1	0.6	0	0.7	1.1	0.2
Scranton, Pa.	-	1.6	-	1.5	0	2.1	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	2.1	3.3	2.4	0.9	0	1.4	4.9	0.9
Washington, D. C.	1.8	2.8	2.5	0.9	0	1.4	1.8	0.7

* See general explanation of tables on page 2.

1/ Percentage changes for those goods and services in the index between August and September 1946 before the reintroduction of consumers' durable goods.

TABLE 6 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM JUNE TO SEPTEMBER 1946

WITH REINTRODUCTIONS IN SEPTEMBER 1/

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	9.5	19.6	5.5	0.3	3.5	-0.4	6.3	6.1	1.6
Atlanta, Ga.	9.5	23.0	6.5	2/ 0.4	2.1	0.1	3.1	6.3	-0.8
Baltimore, Md.	9.2	18.2	2.8	-	4.8	0	7.7	6.7	2.5
Birmingham, Ala.	7.8	19.6	4.5	-	1.1	0	1.6	-0.1	-2.2
Boston, Mass.	10.7	21.7	5.1	-	5.1	0.1	7.1	4.0	2.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	9.3	17.5	7.3	-	6.7	0	11.4	13.6	2.4
Chicago, Ill.	11.6	23.4	6.8	0.7	3.1	0	5.3	6.3	2.5
Cincinnati, Ohio	10.0	19.7	6.4	-	2.7	0	4.7	11.1	1.4
Cleveland, Ohio	8.8	20.1	3.0	-	2.8	0	5.1	1.8	1.2
Denver, Colo.	8.2	17.1	2.1	-	2.4	0	4.1	7.4	2.8
Detroit, Mich.	7.5	15.8	4.7	-	5.0	0	7.4	5.4	1.1
Houston, Texas	9.4	20.5	6.6	-	0.1	0	0.1	7.8	1.3
Indianapolis, Ind.	10.8	21.8	9.2	-0.2	5.1	0	7.0	6.9	3.0
Jacksonville, Fla.	8.5	19.8	6.7	2/ 0.1	1.3	0	2.0	6.0	-1.3
Kansas City, Mo.	9.0	22.6	4.3	0.2	2.4	-4.3	6.9	4.8	-0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	8.9	14.0	5.3	-	0	0	0	5.6	0.9
Manchester, N. H.	9.1	17.7	4.7	2/ 0.3	4.5	0.1	6.2	4.6	1.8
Memphis, Tenn.	8.7	20.6	2.3	2/ -0.1	3.5	0	4.8	-0.8	0.9
Milwaukee, Wisc.	8.8	18.0	4.5	0.2	3.8	-1.5	6.6	11.4	1.2
Minneapolis, Minn.	10.0	22.1	6.1	-	5.2	0	7.4	6.8	1.9
Mobile, Ala.	9.3	17.8	3.9	0.3	1.1	0.1	1.8	4.3	3.0
New Orleans, La.	11.4	21.0	5.6	-0.2	0.4	0	0.6	7.8	2.7
New York, N. Y.	10.0	19.8	6.9	-0.1	2.4	-0.7	5.7	7.1	2.0
Norfolk, Va.	10.1	21.5	7.6	-0.1	1.7	0	2.7	6.6	0
Philadelphia, Pa.	10.2	20.3	4.1	-	5.4	0	8.3	5.2	1.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	9.4	20.3	5.5	2/ 0.1	2.5	0.2	5.3	2.0	1.1
Portland, Maine	9.9	20.7	3.3	0.1	6.7	0.4	9.1	11.0	2.1
Portland, Oreg.	7.6	16.5	4.4	0.2	0.9	0	1.4	-1.4	1.7
Richmond, Va.	9.0	21.0	4.9	2/ 0.1	2.1	0	2.9	7.9	0
St. Louis, Mo.	8.9	18.4	5.0	-	2.7	0	4.5	7.2	0.7
San Francisco, Calif.	9.5	19.9	4.5	-	-4.2	-6.4	1.8	3.0	2.5
Savannah, Ga.	9.4	20.4	4.5	-	5.9	0	8.1	-0.2	-0.5
Scranton, Pa.	10.7	20.8	5.2	-2.6	8.7	0	12.2	5.2	2.7
Seattle, Wash.	8.0	15.8	4.4	-	2.8	0	4.4	9.9	1.8
Washington, D. C.	8.4	20.1	4.7	0	4.6	0	7.1	5.9	1.3

*See general explanation of tables on page 2.

- 1/ Percentage changes based on the June 1946 indexes and the indexes for September with adjustments for reintroductions of consumers' durable goods.
2/ Change from March 1946.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - OCTOBER 15, 1946

October 15 Consumers' Prices 50 Percent Higher Than August 15, 1939

Retail prices of living essentials used by moderate-income city families advanced 1.7 percent between mid-September and mid-October. Food prices went up 3.4 percent; prices of consumers' goods and services other than food and rent rose 0.6 percent. Rents were not surveyed in October. The consumers' price index prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor, was 148.4 percent of the 1935-39 average on October 15, 1946, and 15.1 percent higher than a year ago.

In mid-October until prices of goods and services used by moderate-income city families were 50.5 percent higher than in mid-August 1939. The family food bill had risen 92.5 percent, clothing and housefurnishings costs each advanced more than 66 percent during the same period. Residential rents, however, had increased only 4.3 percent.

Retail food prices in large cities advanced 3.4 percent between mid-September and mid-October as prices of eggs, dairy products, and sugar and sweets increased sharply. Butter prices rose almost 13 cents per pound during the month; in mid-October butter was 96 cents per pound as compared with 35 cents in October 1939 and 61 cents in June 1946. Poultry and egg prices -- each in demand as meat substitutes in September and early October -- increased 17 and 11 percent, respectively. The cost of sugar to consumers jumped 20 percent as retailers were allowed to raise their prices to cover increases in prices given to sugar producers.

Fresh fruit and vegetable prices declined further by 1.3 percent with prices of spinach, lettuce, cabbage, and potatoes dropping 4 to 9 percent. It is estimated that meat prices increased 1.2 percent over the month. (See technical notes.) Food prices in mid-October were 29.2 percent higher than a year ago, and 23.6 percent above mid-June. They were obtained in the period October 14-17; meat price controls were removed effective October 15.

Average costs of clothing again advanced and were 0.7 percent higher in mid-October than in mid-September. The sharp increases in the prices of raw cotton during the summer were reflected in October in higher prices for many essential cotton garments including underwear, shirts, socks, and denim work clothing. Prices for all types of leather footwear advanced as a result of higher ceiling prices granted to manufacturers in recent months to offset the rising cost of leather. Prices for sweaters were somewhat lower in many stores as supplies increased.

Housefurnishings prices rose 1.2 percent during the month as higher price lines replaced those previously available and retailers adjusted their prices in accordance with price increases granted by OPA before all price controls were removed. Prices of sheets, mattresses, cook stoves, sewing machines, radios, electric refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, and washing machines advanced in many of the 21 cities surveyed. Average costs for bedroom furniture were also higher, although somewhat lower prices were reported in a few cities.

Miscellaneous goods and services rose 0.7 percent because of higher prices for cigarettes, beauty shop services, motion picture admissions, and motor oil. Electricity costs declined 7 percent in New Orleans as lower rates became effective on October 1.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Sufficient price quotations were obtained in mid-October to compute price indexes for beef and veal in many cities but the shortage of pork in all cities, and the scarcity of beef, veal, and lamb in a few cities continued to be so severe that a reliable sample of prices could not be obtained. For those meats in the cities where an adequate number of prices could be obtained, mid-October prices were compared directly with prices in August, the last month in which sufficient quotations were secured for most meats used in computing the index. For meats for which an adequate sample of prices was not obtained in mid-October, prices were again held unchanged at August levels in computing the index. An adequate number of quotations was reported in all cities for poultry and fish. On this basis, the average increase in the cost of meat, fish, and poultry combined to consumers between September and October has been estimated at 1.2 percent.

It is expected that the November meat index will be based on the usual number of price quotations and will describe in full the change that has occurred in the price of meat between mid-November and mid-August, the last date for which quotations could be obtained from nearly all stores.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

*Note: The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items prices for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose income average \$1524 in 1934-36. The index only partially shows the wartime effects of changes in quality, availability of consumer goods, etc. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the index for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If account is taken of continued deterioration of quality and disappearance of low-priced merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, which was estimated at an additional 1/2 point, the total large-city adjustment would be 4.5 points. If small cities were included in the national average, another 1/2 point would be added, making the total approximately 5 points.

Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 3, which have been estimated for January 1.

Wage Base Date. January 1, 1941 is the base date for determining allowable "cost of living" wage increased under the "Little Steel" formula and under the wage-price policy of February 1946. January 1, 1941 indexes in Tables 1 and 3 have been estimated by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

Hold-the-Line. The President's "hold-the-line" order was issued April 8, 1943. The peak of the rise which led to this order was reached in May, which is therefore used for this comparison.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Oct. 1946	Sept. 1946	Oct. 1945	Aug. 1945	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	148.4	145.9	128.9	129.3	100.8	98.6
Food	180.0	174.1	139.3	140.9	97.6	93.5
Clothing	167.0	165.9	148.5	146.4	101.2	100.3
Rent	--	108.8	--	--	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	114.4	114.4	110.5	111.4	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	91.6	91.7	94.8	95.2	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	136.5	136.5	125.7	127.2	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	167.6	165.6	146.9	146.0	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	130.8	129.9	124.7	124.5	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to October 1946

ALL ITEMS	--	1.7	15.1	14.8	47.2	50.5
Food	--	3.4	29.2	27.8	84.4	92.5
Clothing	--	0.7	12.5	14.1	65.0	66.5
Rent ^{1/}	--	--	--	--	3.6	4.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	0	3.5	2.7	13.5	17.3
Gas & electricity	--	-0.1	- 3.4	- 3.8	- 6.1	- 7.5
Other fuels & ice	--	0	8.6	7.3	31.2	41.7
Housefurnishings	--	1.2	14.1	14.8	67.3	66.6
Miscellaneous	--	0.7	4.9	5.1	28.5	30.3

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.
^{1/} Percent change to September 1946.

TABLE 2 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Oct. 15 1946	Sept. 17 1946	Oct. 16 1945	Aug. 14 1945	Jan. 14 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month 1/	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date* 2/	Month Before War in Europe
Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0						
ALL FOODS	180.0	174.1	139.3	140.9	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	138.5	137.3	109.1	109.1	94.9	93.4
Meats 3/	190.7	188.5	131.0	131.8	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	174.6	180.3	118.2	118.5	109.4	99.6
Pork	182.4	182.4	112.6	112.6	86.1	88.0
Lamb	187.7	187.6R	136.2	136.4	98.7	98.8
Chickens	225.3	192.8	152.3	157.3	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	249.7	257.8	221.3	217.8	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	202.4	186.6	133.3	133.4	105.1	93.1
Eggs	214.6	193.3	185.5	171.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	176.5	176.4	172.5	183.5	93.3	92.4
Fresh	178.8	181.1	182.3	196.2	93.4	92.8
Canned	154.6	148.7	130.4	130.3	91.4	91.6
Dried	198.7	185.6	168.9	168.6	99.6	90.3
Beverages	166.5	162.0	124.7	124.7	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	147.9	151.4	124.0	124.0	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	167.5	141.5	126.5	126.6	95.3	95.6
Percentage Change to October 15, 1946						
ALL FOODS	--	3.4	29.2	27.8	84.0	92.5
Cereals & bakery products	--	0.9	26.9	26.9	45.9	48.3
Meats 3/	--	1.2	45.6	44.7	88.6	99.3
Beef & veal	--	-3.2	47.7	47.3	59.6	75.3
Pork	--	-	62.0	62.0	111.8	107.3
Lamb	--	0.1	37.8	37.6	90.2	90.0
Chickens	--	16.9	47.9	43.2	131.8	138.2
Fish, fresh & canned	--	5.0	12.8	14.6	110.4	150.7
Dairy products	--	8.5	51.8	51.7	92.6	117.4
Eggs	--	11.0	15.7	25.2	120.3	136.6
Fruits & vegetables	--	0.1	2.3	-3.8	89.2	91.0
Fresh	--	-1.3	-1.9	-8.9	91.4	92.7
Canned	--	4.0	18.6	18.6	69.1	68.8
Dried	--	7.1	17.6	17.9	99.5	120.0
Beverages	--	2.8	33.5	33.5	83.2	75.4
Fats & oils	--	-2.3	19.3	19.3	84.2	75.0
Sugar & sweets	--	18.4	32.4	32.3	75.8	75.2

1/ Preliminary

2/ The wage formulas apply to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

3/ A detailed explanation on procedures used in handling the meat index in October is given in the technical note accompanying this release.

R - Revised

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO OCTOBER 1946
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Sept. 1946	Oct. 1945	Aug. 1945	Jan. 1941	Aug. 1939
	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	1.7	15.1	14.8	47.2	50.5
Baltimore, Md.	1.7	14.0	13.6	49.6	52.6
Birmingham, Ala.	2.2	12.9	12.2	47.9	52.6
Boston, Mass.	2.0	16.1	15.0	45.8	48.8
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.0	13.8	13.1	43.6	48.5
Chicago, Ill.	2.1	15.9	15.7	47.4	51.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.6	13.1	13.1	46.9	50.4
Cleveland, Ohio	1.1	13.3	12.9	46.3	49.2
Denver, Colo.	0.6	13.0	12.2	43.3	45.3
Detroit, Mich.	1.4	13.8	13.3	47.2	51.0
Houston, Tex.	0.8	13.1	13.0	41.1	42.9
Kansas City, Mo.	0.6	11.8	11.3	44.3	44.0
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.9	12.0	13.1	44.6	47.5
Minneapolis, Minn.	2.3	16.4	16.7	43.1	46.1
New York, N. Y.	2.1	17.9	17.4	51.1	54.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.4	15.9	15.3	49.3	51.4
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.1	14.6	14.4	47.2	51.4
St. Louis, Mo.	2.5	15.4	14.9	45.0	49.3
San Francisco, Calif.	1.4	15.0	15.5	50.3	54.1
Savannah, Ga.	0.8	12.8	12.1	53.0	56.2
Seattle, Wash.	2.6	15.1	14.2	43.7	51.3
Washington, D. C.	1.6	14.2	14.3	47.4	49.4

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, OCTOBER 1946

(Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food 1/	Cloth- ing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- lane- ous
				Total	Gas & Elec- tricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	148.4	180.0	167.0	114.4	91.6	136.5	167.6	130.8
Atlanta, Ga.	-	177.5	-	116.5	82.9	147.5	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	150.6	186.1	167.5	117.9	96.5	135.2	172.4	129.7
Birmingham, Ala.	150.3	183.0	162.0	114.3	79.6	140.4	156.1	128.5
Boston, Mass.	144.5	174.4	164.2	123.9	101.5	136.0	161.3	124.8
Buffalo, N. Y.	146.3	168.4	168.4	115.8	94.9	134.4	174.9	134.7
Chicago, Ill.	149.2	183.4	162.9	106.1	83.5	129.6	160.0	128.5
Cincinnati, Ohio	146.3	171.3	164.1	113.3	90.8	134.8	167.5	132.6
Cleveland, Ohio	149.2	183.1	159.3	118.1	104.9	131.0	155.4	129.5
Denver, Colo.	143.3	171.4	156.4	100.8	77.3	128.4	135.6	129.0
Detroit, Mich.	148.7	173.9	162.8	117.5	84.1	142.8	173.5	141.6
Houston, Texas	143.9	174.7	160.4	88.8	81.8	107.3	169.1	130.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	175.9	-	118.5	86.6	137.1	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	182.5	-	119.2	92.8	142.2	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	142.0	166.6	156.8	117.2	91.2	140.9	159.0	131.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	148.2	182.8	160.8	92.5	91.0	99.8	161.3	132.4
Manchester, N. H.	-	176.9	-	127.6	96.4	143.2	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	191.0	-	111.3	77.0	130.2	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	174.8	-	117.3	93.7	133.3	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	145.7	177.6	168.5	109.0	76.9	128.7	164.6	128.8
Mobile, Ala.	-	182.3	-	107.0	83.9	125.3	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	196.0	-	102.1	75.1	130.7	-	-
New York, N. Y.	152.6	186.7	182.7	116.2	93.9	150.6	163.6	133.6
Norfolk, Va.	-	139.3	-	122.5	94.9	144.3	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	148.1	177.6	162.7	121.2	92.5	143.2	166.8	128.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	149.0	179.3	190.5	116.9	103.3	140.2	161.0	125.4
Portland, Maine	-	173.5	-	123.9	99.9	136.0	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	183.7	-	121.9	88.0	163.5	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	175.9	-	112.6	94.2	123.8	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	146.5	183.6	163.2	111.6	97.2	124.3	145.7	125.0
San Francisco, Calif.	153.0	191.4	160.1	82.3	72.7	115.2	136.3	142.5
Savannah, Ga.	155.1	192.6	163.6	118.1	91.2	134.3	175.8	133.4
Scranton, Pa.	-	182.5	-	130.4	91.8	154.0	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	151.8	186.1	160.8	108.8	83.9	129.6	167.1	138.7
Washington, D. C.	147.3	180.6	185.2	117.4	94.4	132.7	167.2	135.5

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

1/ A detailed explanation on procedures used in handling the meat index in October is given in the technical note accompanying this release.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER 1946

City	All Items	Food 1/	Cloth- ing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- lane- ous
				Total	Gas & Elec- tricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	1.7	3.4	0.7	0	-0.1	0	1.2	0.7
Atlanta, Ga.	-	2.4	-	0.2	0	0.3	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	1.7	3.3	0.3	0.3	0	0.4	0.3	0.6
Birmingham, Ala.	2.2	3.6	0.6	0.2	0	0.2	3.7	1.9
Boston, Mass.	2.0	3.3	1.5	-0.2	-1.0	0.1	3.3	0.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.0	2.2	0.5	-0.3	0	-0.6	0.4	0.4
Chicago, Ill.	2.1	4.1	0.3	0.2	0	0.3	1.8	0.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.6	1.2	0.1	0	0	0	-0.1	0.4
Cleveland, Ohio	1.1	2.1	1.3	0	0	0	1.0	-0.2
Denver, Colo.	0.6	0.3	1.4	0.1	0	0.1	0.5	0.2
Detroit, Mich.	1.4	3.3	0.7	0	0	0	0.2	0.4
Houston, Texas	0.8	0.7	0.6	0	0	0	1.7	1.0
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	2.0	-	0	0	0	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	1.0	-	0	0	0	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	0.6	0.8	0.4	0	0	0	1.1	0.8
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.9	3.6	0.9	0	0	0	2.5	0.8
Manchester, N. H.	-	4.1	-	0.1	0.2	0	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	3.1	-	0.1	0	0	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	2.6	-	0.1	0.1	0	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	2.3	5.8	0.5	0	0	0	0.4	0
Mobile, Ala.	-	3.6	-	0.1	0	0.2	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	2.3	-	-1.3	-2.6	0	-	-
New York, N. Y.	2.1	4.4	0.1	-0.1	0	-0.2	0.1	1.0
Norfolk, Va.	-	6.7	-	0.2	0	0.3	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.4	2.9	0.2	0	0	0.1	0.1	0.8
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.1	1.4	2.8	0	0	0	1.7	0.4
Portland, Maine	-	3.9	-	0.2	0.6	0	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	-0.4	-	-0.4	0.1	-0.6	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	5.1	-	0	0	0.1	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	2.5	5.2	0.6	0	0	0	0.8	0.6
San Francisco, Calif.	1.4	2.6	0.4	0	0	0	0.3	0.8
Savannah, Ga.	0.3	0.9	1.4	-0.8	0	-1.0	2.3	1.0
Scranton, Pa.	-	4.9	-	0	0	0	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	2.6	6.0	0.1	0	0	0.1	0.1	0.4
Washington, D. C.	1.6	3.4	0.7	0	0	0	3.0	0.5

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

1/ A detailed explanation on procedures used in handling the meat index in October is given in the technical note accompanying this release.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - NOVEMBER 15, 1946

Consumers' Prices Rose 2.2 Percent Between October 15 and November 15

Preliminary figures on the rise in consumers' prices were released on December 14. The complete report for mid-November is given below. Mid-December indexes will not be available until late in January.

Retail prices of consumers goods in large cities rose 2.2 percent between mid-October and mid-November bringing the consumers' price index for the United States to the highest level on record, it was announced today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor. On November 15 the index was 151.7 (1935-39 = 100), 1.5 percent higher than in June 1920, the peak after World War I. Retail food prices increased 4.3 percent between October 15 and November 15 as living essentials other than food and rent rose 0.9 percent.

In mid-November consumers' prices were 13.8 percent higher than on June 15, 1946, and 53.9 percent higher than in August 1939. In the year between November 1945 and November 1946 food prices rose 34 percent; clothing 13 percent; housefurnishings 15 percent; residential rents however have advanced only slightly and gas and electricity costs have declined about 2 percent.

Retail food prices to moderate-income families in large cities advanced 4.3 percent between mid-October and mid-November. Higher prices were reported for all major food groups except eggs and dairy products, but sharp increases in prices of fats and oils, meats, and fruits and vegetables were chiefly responsible for this advance. Retail prices of fats and oils rose 65 percent on the average during the month as the prices for lard increased 104 percent, shortening 66 to 85 percent, and oleomargarine 56 percent. Meat, poultry, and fish averaged 9.1 percent higher in mid-November than in mid-August. 1/ Fresh fruits and vegetables advanced seasonally 2 percent, while canned and dried fruits and vegetables rose 8 and 27 percent, respectively. Egg prices dropped 6 percent to an average of 70 cents per dozen. Butter prices declined 7.7 cents per pound from an all-time high of 96 cents on the average in mid-October.

Clothing prices increased 1.0 percent on the average during the month as higher prices were reported for nearly every type of apparel. In mid-November the Bureau's agents found higher price tags on men's suits, broadcloth shirts, cotton work clothing, undergarments, and socks than in mid-October. Prices for women's cotton dresses and gloves were also consistently higher in mid-November. The cost of leather footwear for all members of the family rose during the month and shoe repairs were also generally higher.

1/ See page 2.

Average retail costs of housefurnishings and miscellaneous goods and services increased 0.9 percent each between October and November. Prices for sewing machines, vacuum cleaners, electric refrigerators, stoves, felt base floor covering, mattresses, cotton sheets and blankets rose in most cities. Bedroom and living room suites advanced in some cities and declined in others. The increase in the cost of miscellaneous goods and services was primarily because of higher prices for cigarettes, cigars, gasoline, beauty shop services, and newspapers. New automobile prices also rose during the month.

Fuel, electricity, and ice costs rose 0.3 percent on the average. Retail coal prices advanced somewhat in 17 cities. Electricity costs declined 5 and 7 percent in Portland, Oregon and Portland, Maine as lower rates became effective. A rebate was allowed to consumers of gas in Detroit.

Rents were not surveyed in November.

1/ In a number of cities in September and October the Bureau was not able to obtain an adequate number of price quotations for some meats because of the severe shortage. For those meats in the cities where an adequate number of prices could not be collected during these months, prices were held unchanged at August levels to allow the computation of the index. For meats in the cities where an adequate sample of prices could be obtained, prices in September and October were compared directly with prices for the last month in which sufficient quotations were secured to compute a reliable meat index. The November index, based on the usual number of quotations, reflects the correct level of prices, and the full price change that occurred from mid-August to mid-November.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

*Note: The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose income average \$1524 in 1934-36. The index only partially shows the wartime effects of changes in quality, availability of consumer goods, etc. The President's Committee on the Cost of Living has estimated that such factors, together with certain others not fully measured by the index, would add a maximum of 3 to 4 points to the index for large cities between January 1941 and September 1944. If account is taken of continued deterioration of quality and disappearance of low-priced merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, which was estimated at an additional 1/2 point, the total large-city adjustment would be 4.5 points. If small cities were included in the national average, another 1/2 point would be added, making the total approximately 5 points.

Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 3, which have been estimated for January 1.

Wage Base Date. January 1, 1941 is the base date for determining allowable "cost of living" wage increases under the "Little Steel" formula and under the wage-price policy of February 1946. January 1, 1941 indexes in Tables 1 and 3 have been estimated by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing date.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September, and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

	Nov. 15 1946	Oct. 15 1946	Nov. 15 1945	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
Group	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J Day	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	151.7	148.4	129.3	129.3	100.8	98.6
Food	187.7	180.0	140.1	140.9	97.6	93.5
Clothing	168.7	167.0	148.7	146.4	101.2	100.3
Rent	--	--	--	--	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	114.7	114.4	110.1	111.4	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	91.8	91.6	94.0	95.2	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	137.0	136.5	125.8	127.2	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	169.1	167.6	147.6	146.0	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	132.0	130.8	124.6	124.5	101.8	100.4

Percent Change to November 15, 1946

ALL ITEMS	--	2.2	17.3	17.3	50.5	53.9
Food	--	4.3	34.0	33.2	92.3	100.7
Clothing	--	1.0	13.4	15.2	66.7	68.2
Rent 1/	--	--	--	--	3.6	4.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	0.3	4.2	3.0	13.8	17.6
Gas & electricity	--	0.2	-2.3	-3.6	-5.8	-7.3
Other fuels & ice	--	0.4	8.9	7.7	31.7	42.3
Housefurnishings	--	0.9	14.6	15.8	68.8	68.1
Miscellaneous	--	0.9	5.9	6.0	29.7	31.5

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

1/Percent change to September 15, 1946

TABLE 2 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

November 1946

	Nov. 15 1946	Oct. 15 1946	Nov. 15 1945	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 15 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date 1/	Month Before War in Europe
	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0					
ALL FOODS	2/187.7	2/180.0	140.0	140.9	97.8	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	140.6	138.5	109.1	109.1	94.9	93.4
Meats	2/203.6	2/190.7	131.0	131.8	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	2/191.0	2/174.6	118.2	118.5	109.4	99.6
Pork	2/207.1	2/182.4	112.6	112.6	86.1	88.0
Lamb	2/208.4	2/187.7	136.2	136.4	98.7	98.8
Chickens	188.9	225.3	152.5	157.3	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	265.0	249.7	220.8	217.8	118.7	99.6
Dairy products	198.5	202.4	135.9	133.4	105.1	93.1
Eggs	201.6	214.6	192.1	171.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	184.5	176.5	172.3	183.5	93.3	92.4
Fresh	182.3	178.8	181.9	196.2	93.4	92.3
Canned	167.7	154.6	130.6	130.3	91.4	91.6
Dried	251.6	198.7	168.5	168.6	99.6	90.3
Beverages	167.8	166.5	124.9	124.7	90.9	94.9
Fats & oils	244.3	147.9	124.4	124.0	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	170.5	167.5	126.5	126.6	95.3	95.6
	Percent Change to November 15, 1946					
ALL FOODS	--	4.3	34.0	33.2	91.9	100.7
Cereals & bakery products	--	1.5	28.9	28.9	46.2	50.5
Meats	--	2/ 6.8	55.4	54.5	101.4	112.7
Beef & veal	--	2/ 9.4	61.6	61.2	74.6	91.8
Pork	--	2/13.5	83.9	83.9	140.5	135.3
Lamb	--	2/ 9.4	50.8	50.6	108.1	107.9
Chickens	--	16.2	23.9	20.1	94.3	99.7
Fish, fresh & canned	--	6.1	20.0	21.7	123.3	166.1
Dairy products	--	- 1.9	46.1	48.8	88.9	113.2
Eggs	--	- 6.1	4.9	17.6	107.0	122.3
Fruits & vegetables	--	4.5	7.1	0.5	97.7	99.7
Fresh	--	2.0	0.2	- 7.1	95.2	96.4
Canned	--	8.5	28.4	28.7	83.5	83.1
Dried	--	26.6	49.3	49.2	152.6	178.6
Beverages	--	0.8	34.3	34.6	84.6	76.8
Fats & oils	--	65.2	96.4	97.0	204.2	189.1
Sugar & sweets	--	1.8	34.8	34.7	78.9	78.3

1/ The wage formulas apply to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 14, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

2/ The index now reflects fully the current level of prices for meats as well as the entire price change that occurred since mid-August 1946. Most meat prices in the intervening months were held unchanged from August levels for those cities where an adequate number of quotations was not obtained because of the severe meat shortage. In other cities prices for some meats were compared directly with the nearest preceding month for which a sufficient number of quotations were secured.

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES TO NOVEMBER 1946
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Oct. 15 1946	Nov. 15 1945	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	Last month	Year ago	V-J	Wage base date*	Month before war in Europe
AVERAGE	2.2	17.3	17.3	50.5	53.9
Baltimore, Md.	2.5	17.1	16.4	53.3	56.4
Birmingham, Ala.	4.9	18.5	17.7	55.1	60.0
Boston, Mass.	0.9	17.0	16.0	47.1	50.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	2.1	15.4	15.4	46.5	51.6
Chicago, Ill.	1.9	19.4	18.9	50.3	54.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	4.4	18.2	18.2	53.4	57.0
Cleveland, Ohio	2.7	16.2	16.0	50.3	53.3
Denver, Colo.	5.7	19.4	18.6	51.4	53.5
Detroit, Mich.	2.0	15.8	15.6	50.2	54.0
Houston, Tex.	3.8	17.6	17.3	46.5	48.4
Kansas City, Mo.	3.0	14.8	14.7	48.7	48.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	4.0	15.9	17.6	50.3	53.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	1.7	18.0	18.7	45.6	48.6
New York, New York	0.8	17.9	18.3	52.3	55.4
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.7	17.5	17.3	51.8	54.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	2.8	17.8	17.6	51.3	55.6
St. Louis, Mo.	2.4	18.3	17.6	48.5	52.9
San Francisco, Calif.	3.7	18.0	19.7	55.8	59.7
Savannah, Ga.	4.2	17.3	16.8	59.4	62.7
Seattle, Wash.	2.2	16.7	16.7	51.9	54.6
Washington, D. C.	1.7	15.7	16.2	49.9	51.9

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, NOVEMBER 1946

(Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
				Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	151.7	187.7	168.7	114.7	91.8	137.0	169.1	132.0
Atlanta, Ga.	-	192.0	-	118.7	83.0	151.5	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	154.4	195.1	168.3	117.9	96.5	135.2	176.5	131.0
Birmingham, Ala.	157.6	203.5	161.5	114.6	79.6	140.9	157.9	130.0
Boston, Mass.	145.8	177.8	163.8	124.3	102.6	136.0	160.7	125.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	149.3	175.4	170.5	117.3	94.9	137.2	176.4	135.5
Chicago, Ill.	152.1	189.4	164.8	106.2	83.5	129.7	162.0	130.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	152.8	187.0	167.3	113.3	90.8	134.8	169.1	134.4
Cleveland, Ohio	153.3	193.1	160.9	118.1	104.9	131.0	157.5	131.4
Denver, Colo.	151.4	192.7	161.1	101.3	77.3	129.4	187.4	129.3
Detroit, Mich.	151.7	181.6	164.9	117.6	84.1	142.9	175.1	142.5
Houston, Texas	149.4	190.0	161.3	94.1	81.8	127.2	169.5	131.6
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	187.3	-	118.5	86.6	137.3	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	199.1	-	119.2	92.8	142.2	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	146.3	178.0	157.6	117.9	91.2	142.2	160.2	133.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	154.1	198.1	162.3	92.5	91.0	99.8	164.2	134.0
Manchester, N. H.	-	185.6	-	127.7	96.7	143.2	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	207.3	-	111.3	77.0	130.4	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	184.1	-	117.3	93.8	133.3	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	148.2	181.7	172.8	110.1	78.9	130.5	166.6	131.0
Mobile, Ala.	-	193.8	-	107.1	83.9	125.8	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	207.4	-	102.1	75.1	130.7	-	-
New York, N. Y.	153.8	188.6	185.3	116.5	94.4	150.4	165.2	134.2
Norfolk, Va.	-	197.0	-	122.5	94.9	144.3	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	150.6	181.6	163.9	121.1	92.5	142.9	168.1	129.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	153.1	188.5	195.1	116.9	103.3	140.2	161.7	126.6
Portland, Maine	-	178.9	-	122.5	95.4	136.1	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	194.8	-	120.0	85.4	162.2	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	183.2	-	112.6	94.2	122.8	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	150.0	191.8	164.4	111.6	97.2	124.3	146.7	126.8
San Francisco, Calif.	158.6	205.2	161.7	82.3	72.7	115.2	138.7	143.9
Savannah, Ga.	161.6	209.4	163.4	118.3	91.2	134.6	173.2	134.4
Scranton, Pa.	-	185.6	-	130.4	91.8	154.0	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	155.1	194.6	162.7	108.8	83.9	129.6	166.5	139.4
Washington, D. C.	149.8	186.8	186.8	117.1	94.4	132.2	170.2	136.6

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM OCTOBER 15 TO NOVEMBER 15, 1946

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- lane- ous
				Total	Gas & Elec- tricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	2.2	4.3	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.9	0.9
Atlanta, Ga.	-	8.2	-	1.9	0.1	2.7	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	2.5	4.8	0.5	0	0	0	2.4	1.0
Birmingham, Ala.	4.9	11.2	-0.3	0.3	0	0.4	1.2	1.2
Boston, Mass.	0.9	1.9	-0.2	0.3	1.1	0	-0.4	0.3
Buffalo, N. Y.	2.1	4.2	1.2	1.3	0	2.1	0.9	0.6
Chicago, Ill.	1.9	3.3	1.2	0.1	0	0.1	1.2	1.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	4.4	9.2	2.0	0	0	0	1.0	1.4
Cleveland, Ohio	2.7	5.5	1.0	0	0	0	1.4	1.5
Denver, Colo.	5.7	12.4	3.0	0.5	0	0.8	1.0	0.2
Detroit, Mich.	2.0	4.4	1.3	0.1	0	0.1	0.9	0.6
Houston, Texas	3.8	8.8	0.6	6.0	0	18.5	0.2	1.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	6.5	-	0	0	0.1	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	9.1	-	0	0	0	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	3.0	6.8	0.5	0.6	0	0.9	0.8	1.5
Los Angeles, Calif.	4.0	8.4	0.9	0	0	0	1.8	1.2
Manchester, N. H.	-	4.9	-	0.1	0.3	0	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	8.5	-	0	0	0.2	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	5.3	-	0	0.1	0	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	1.7	2.3	2.6	1.0	0	1.4	1.2	1.7
Mobile, Ala.	-	6.0	-	0.1	0	0	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	5.8	-	0	0	0	-	-
New York, N. Y.	0.8	1.0	1.4	0.3	0.5	-0.1	1.0	0.4
Norfolk, Va.	-	4.1	-	0	0	0	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.7	3.1	0.7	-0.1	0	-0.2	0.8	0.8
Pittsburgh, Pa.	2.8	5.1	2.4	0	0	0	0.4	1.0
Portland, Maine	-	3.1	-	-1.1	-4.5	0.1	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	6.0	-	-1.6	-3.0	-0.8	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	7.0	-	0	0	0	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	2.4	4.5	0.7	0	0	0	0.7	1.4
San Francisco, Calif.	3.7	7.2	1.0	0	0	0	1.8	1.0
Savannah, Ga.	4.2	8.9	-0.1	0.2	0	0.2	1.4	0.7
Scranton, Pa.	-	1.7	-	0	0	0	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	2.2	4.6	1.2	0	0	0	-0.4	0.5
Washington, D. C.	1.7	3.4	0.9	-0.3	0	-0.4	1.8	0.8

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 3.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - DECEMBER 15, 1946

December 15 Consumers' Prices 18 Percent Higher Than Year Ago

Preliminary figures on the rise in the consumers' price index between November 15 and December 15 were released January 21. Final figures through December 1946 are given in this report

Retail prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income city families rose 0.7 percent between mid-November and mid-December, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Prices for food, the most important part of the family budget, dropped 1.0 percent, but prices for all other major groups of living essentials surveyed this month advanced sharply. In the first full month after the end of price control, prices for clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services increased 3.0 percent on the average.

The overall rise of 0.7 percent -- the smallest monthly increase since June 15, 1946 -- brought the consumers' price index to 153.3 (1935-39 = 100). On December 15, 1946, retail prices were 15 percent higher than in mid-June 1946, 18 percent higher than a year ago, and 55.5 percent above the August 1939 level.

The food bill for city workers' families declined 1.0 percent between mid-November and mid-December. Retail prices for lard, oleomargarine, all red meats, cheese, citrus fruit, green beans, and lettuce were lower on December 15 than on November 15. Lower prices for these items more than offset continued advances in the retail prices of cereal and bakery products, butter and milk, canned and dried fruits and vegetables, coffee, and sugar.

Clothing prices for moderate-income families rose 3.2 percent during the first full month following the removal of price controls, with increases in practically all types of clothing and in shoes. Leather footwear prices led the upswing with men's and women's shoes advancing 9 and 7 percent, respectively. Prices were higher for men's overcoats and suits, work clothing, and other cotton apparel and for most women's clothing items. Women's rayon dresses and underwear prices had the largest increases; retail prices of nylon stockings also advanced although supplies had improved markedly. Prices for women's coats dropped slightly in mid-December because of seasonal sales.

Housefurnishings prices advanced 3.6 percent between mid-November and mid-December as most items in this group were higher. The increases were attributed to higher cost of merchandise for new stock. Prices of washing machines, electric

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December 1946

and gas refrigerators, and of other household appliances advanced more rapidly than prices of furniture following the removal of price controls.

Miscellaneous goods and services costs rose 2.7 percent during the month as the cost of medical care, particularly hospital rates, continued to increase. Higher prices for automobiles, newspapers, motion picture admissions, barber and beauty shop rates, and tobacco also contributed to this advance. Prices of laundry services and cleaning supplies jumped sharply between mid-November and mid-December.

Fuel, electricity, and ice costs rose 0.6 percent on the average. Retail prices of coal increased in most cities in advance of the January freight rate increase and as supplies were reduced because of the coal strike. Fuel oil prices moved up 2.4 percent following increases for crude oil in November. The cost of gas to consumers in Portland, Oregon rose 9 percent after a rate change on December 5.

Rents were not surveyed in December.

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*Note: The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose incomes averaged \$1,524 in 1934-36.

Since May 1944 a statement has been included in the monthly report on the consumers' price index, given a brief explanation of the index. This statement pointed out that during the war changes in the quality and the availability of consumer goods, the underreporting of over-ceiling prices, and the disappearance of special sales were not fully reflected in the indexes.

Beginning with the release of the August 1945 consumers' price index, the statement was enlarged to summarize the findings of the President's Committee on the Cost of Living. The Committee has estimated in November 1944 that the index understated the rise in retail prices between January 1941 and September 1944 by a maximum of 3 to 4 points, and that if small cities were included in the national average, another 1/2 point would be added. In December 1945, the Stabilization Direction, in connection with Executive Orders 9529 and 9551, indicated that if account were taken of continued deterioration of quality and unavailability of merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, the over all allowance for the period from January 1941 to September 1945 would total approximately 5 points for large and small cities combined.

A further statement on this subject will be available in the near future.

Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 3, which have been estimated for January 1.

Wage Base Date. January 1, 1941 is the base date for determining allowable "cost of living" wage increases under the "Little Steel" formula and under the wage-price policy of February 1946. January 1, 1941 indexes in Tables 1 and 3 have been estimated by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing period.

Food prices are collected monthly in 50 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 50, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COLLECTED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

GROUP	Dec. 15 1946	Nov. 15 1946	Dec. 15 1945	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month	last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes. 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	153.5	R152.2	129.9	149.3	100.8	98.6
Food	185.9	187.7	141.4	140.9	97.6	93.5
Clothing	173.5	R171.0	149.4	143.4	101.2	100.3
Rent	--	--	108.3	--	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	115.5	R114.8	110.3	111.4	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.0	91.8	94.0	95.2	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	133.5	R137.2	126.1	127.2	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	177.1	R171.0	148.3	143.0	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	136.1	R132.5	124.8	124.5	100.8	100.4

Percent Change to December 15, 1946

ALL ITEMS	--	0.7	18.0	18.6	52.1	55.5
Food	--	-1.0	31.5	31.9	90.5	98.8
Clothing	--	3.2	18.1	20.6	74.4	76.0
Rent 1/	--	--	--	--	3.1	3.8
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	0.6	4.7	3.7	14.6	18.5
Gas & electricity	--	0.2	-2.1	-3.4	-5.6	-7.1
Other fuels & ice	--	0.8	9.7	8.7	33.0	43.6
Housefurnishings	--	3.6	19.4	21.3	76.7	76.0
Miscellaneous	--	2.7	9.1	9.3	33.7	35.6

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

1/ Percent change to September 15, 1946.

TABLE 2 - RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

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December 1946

	Dec. 15 1946	Nov. 15 1946	Dec. 15 1945	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 15 1941	Aug. 15 1939
Group	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date 1/	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100

ALL FOODS	185.3	187.7	141.4	145.9	97.8	98.5
Cereals & bakery products	141.6	140.6	109.2	109.1	94.9	98.4
Meats	197.8	203.6	181.2	181.3	101.1	95.7
Beef & veal	187.6	181.0	118.8	118.5	100.4	98.6
Pork	193.8	207.1	112.6	112.6	98.1	94.0
Lamb	198.8	205.4	136.4	136.4	98.7	98.3
Chickens	189.4	186.9	153.1	157.3	97.2	94.6
Fish, fresh & canned	267.6	265.0	221.7	217.3	119.7	93.6
Dairy products	200.9	199.5	158.2	157.4	101.1	97.1
Eggs	201.1	201.0	198.2	171.4	97.4	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	184.0	184.5	177.8	188.5	98.3	92.4
Fresh	180.6	182.3	163.1	196.2	95.4	89.8
Canned	172.6	167.7	130.3	170.3	91.4	91.8
Dried	208.0	251.8	168.7	168.6	99.2	90.3
Beverages	176.2	167.3	124.6	124.7	80.9	91.3
Fats & oils	207.3	204.37	125.1	124.0	80.3	84.5
Sugar & sweets	175.7	170.5	126.6	126.6	95.3	95.6

Percent Change to December 15, 1946

ALL FOODS	—	- 1.0	31.5	11.9	90.1	98.8
Cereals & bakery products	—	0.7	33.7	29.8	49.2	51.6
Meats	—	- 2.3	50.1	50.1	35.6	106.7
Beef & veal	—	- 1.3	53.6	52.3	71.5	99.1
Pork	—	- 6.7	71.7	71.7	134.5	113.7
Lamb	—	- 3.2	45.7	45.7	101.4	101.2
Chickens	—	0.3	23.7	20.4	94.9	100.2
Fish, fresh & canned	—	1.0	20.7	22.9	125.4	168.7
Dairy products	—	1.2	47.5	50.6	31.2	115.3
Eggs	—	- 0.2	4.1	17.8	100.5	121.7
Fruits & vegetables	—	0.3	4.3	0.8	93.8	100.2
Fresh	—	- 0.9	- 4.1	- 8.0	93.4	91.0
Canned	—	2.9	32.5	32.5	86.8	86.4
Dried	—	6.5	58.0	59.0	169.1	196.3
Beverages	—	5.0	41.1	41.3	93.8	85.7
Fats & oils	—	-15.2	65.7	67.2	153.2	121.3
Sugar & sweets	—	2.8	36.5	35.5	23.0	87.4

1/ The wage formulas apply to Jan. 1, 1941. Jan. 15, 1941 is the nearest date for which data on retail prices of individual foods have been computed.

R. Revised.

December 1946

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
 PERCENT CHANGE TO DECEMBER 1946
 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Nov. 15 1946	Dec. 15 1945	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	Last month	Year ago	V-J	Wage base date*	Month Before War In Europe
AVERAGE	0.7	18.0	18.6	52.1	55.5
Atlanta, Ga.	—	18.6	18.7	56.1	59.0
Baltimore, Md.	0.5	17.5	17.4	54.6	57.8
Birmingham, Ala.	0.4	18.7	18.4	56.0	60.9
Boston, Mass.	1.4	18.7	17.9	49.5	52.6
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.4	16.9	17.2	48.9	54.0
Chicago, Ill.	0.3	19.5	19.6	51.2	55.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.1	17.9	18.1	53.3	56.9
Cleveland, Ohio	1.4	18.1	18.2	52.1	56.2
Denver, Colo.	0.4	18.9	19.4	52.5	54.7
Detroit, Mich.	0.7	16.6	16.7	51.6	55.4
Houston, Tex.	1.5	19.6	19.5	49.3	51.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	—	18.3	18.6	51.2	57.3
Jacksonville, Fla.	—	15.6	15.5	55.8	61.2
Kansas City, Mo.	0.1	14.8	15.2	49.4	49.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	0	15.6	17.9	50.7	53.7
Manchester, N. H.	—	19.5	19.3	56.2	60.0
Memphis, Tenn.	—	17.3	18.0	56.6	59.8
Milwaukee, Wis.	—	18.4	18.7	51.3	55.5
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.6	18.7	19.3	47.1	50.2
Mobile, Ala.	—	17.2	16.5	53.0	58.8
New Orleans, La.	—	22.2	21.0	60.2	63.4
New York, N. Y.	0.6	18.4	19.4	52.7	56.8
Norfolk, Va.	—	17.6	17.9	56.7	61.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.2	18.6	18.8	53.7	55.9
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.0	18.7	19.4	53.6	57.9
Portland, Maine	—	18.0	17.5	51.5	52.7
Portland, Oreg.	—	14.9	16.2	54.7	57.6
Richmond, Va.	—	18.1	18.4	49.9	52.3
St. Louis, Mo.	0.4	17.8	18.6	49.7	54.1
San Francisco, Calif.	0.8	18.1	21.1	57.6	61.5
Savannah, Ga.	0.2	17.8	17.3	60.0	63.3
Scranton, Pa.	—	20.2	20.7	55.2	60.4
Seattle, Wash.	1.2	16.7	18.3	54.0	56.7
Washington, D. C.	1.1	17.0	17.9	52.2	54.2

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES

(Note: Some indexes for October 15 and November 15 revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
AVERAGE									
October 15	148.6	180.0	168.1	--	114.4	91.6	136.6	168.5	131.0
November 15	152.2	187.7	171.0	--	114.8	91.8	137.2	171.0	132.5
December 15	153.3	185.9	176.5	--	115.5	92.0	138.3	177.1	136.1
Atlanta									
October 15	--	177.5	--	--	118.0	82.9	150.2	--	--
November 15	--	192.0	--	--	121.5	83.0	157.0	--	--
December 15	155.8	188.7	172.5	--	129.3	83.1	171.8	173.8	143.8
Baltimore									
October 15	150.9	186.1	169.5	--	117.9	96.5	135.2	172.8	129.8
November 15	154.9	195.1	172.1	--	118.0	96.5	135.3	177.3	131.1
December 15	155.7	192.3	179.0	--	118.1	96.5	135.5	182.1	135.2
Birmingham									
October 15	150.4	183.0	163.0	--	114.3	79.6	140.3	156.3	126.0
November 15	157.9	203.5	163.5	--	114.6	79.6	140.8	158.5	130.2
December 15	158.5	198.4	170.1	--	114.6	79.6	140.8	166.4	134.1
Boston									
October 15	144.6	174.4	165.1	--	123.7	101.5	135.7	162.2	125.0
November 15	146.1	177.8	165.7	--	124.1	102.6	135.7	162.6	125.8
December 15	148.2	178.1	169.4	--	125.4	104.4	136.7	169.2	132.4
Buffalo									
October 15	146.5	168.4	169.2	--	115.8	94.9	134.4	175.6	134.8
November 15	149.6	175.4	172.1	--	117.3	94.9	137.2	178.1	135.8
December 15	151.7	175.8	178.7	--	117.7	94.9	137.9	183.1	140.0
Chicago									
October 15	149.5	183.4	164.0	--	106.1	83.5	129.5	160.6	129.0
November 15	152.5	189.4	166.9	--	106.2	83.5	129.7	163.3	131.0
December 15	153.0	187.0	172.0	--	107.7	83.5	132.8	170.3	133.3
Cincinnati									
October 15	146.5	171.3	164.8	--	113.3	90.8	134.8	170.0	132.6
November 15	152.9	187.0	168.7	--	113.3	90.8	134.8	169.4	134.3
December 15	152.7	184.0	171.1	--	113.4	90.8	134.9	169.9	136.9
Cleveland									
October 15	149.5	183.1	161.1	--	118.1	104.9	130.9	157.1	129.7
November 15	154.0	193.1	164.4	--	118.1	104.9	130.9	161.0	131.9
December 15	156.2	191.4	174.6	--	120.0	104.9	134.7	169.4	135.9

TABLE 4 - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES

(Note: Some indexes for October 15 and November 15 revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
Denver									
October 15	143.7	171.4	157.5	--	100.8	77.3	128.4	186.6	129.8
November 15	151.9	192.7	162.6	--	101.3	77.3	129.5	188.6	130.7
December 15	152.5	190.6	166.9	--	102.4	77.3	131.9	192.4	132.8
Detroit									
October 15	148.8	173.9	163.2	--	117.5	84.1	142.8	174.4	141.7
November 15	152.0	181.6	166.0	--	177.6	84.1	142.9	176.8	142.7
December 15	153.1	179.2	172.2	--	117.9	84.4	143.4	178.7	147.2
Houston									
October 15	144.2	174.7	161.8	--	88.8	81.8	107.3	170.0	130.4
November 15	150.0	190.0	164.2	--	94.1	81.8	127.2	171.1	132.0
December 15	152.3	189.9	171.9	--	94.1	81.8	127.2	179.1	135.3
Indianapolis									
October 15	--	175.9	--	--	118.6	86.6	137.4	--	--
November 15	--	187.3	--	--	118.7	86.6	137.5	--	--
December 15	154.2	184.3	169.7	--	119.4	86.6	138.6	171.8	139.0
Jacksonville									
October 15	--	182.5	--	--	121.9	92.8	147.2	--	--
November 15	--	199.1	--	--	124.6	92.8	152.3	--	--
December 15	158.8	194.8	170.0	--	127.3	92.8	157.3	162.9	144.0
Kansas City									
October 15	142.1	166.6	157.6	--	117.3	91.2	141.0	159.5	131.7
November 15	146.8	178.0	159.5	--	118.1	91.2	142.6	161.1	134.2
December 15	147.0	175.4	162.6	--	118.2	91.2	142.8	165.2	136.0
Los Angeles									
October 15	148.5	182.8	161.6	--	92.5	91.0	99.8	162.4	132.7
November 15	154.5	198.1	164.0	--	92.5	91.0	99.8	166.3	134.4
December 15	154.5	195.1	168.3	--	92.5	91.0	99.9	173.1	135.2
Manchester									
October 15	--	176.9	--	--	127.6	96.4	143.2	--	--
November 15	--	185.6	--	--	127.6	96.7	143.1	--	--
December 15	156.5	186.7	167.5	--	128.6	96.4	144.7	181.3	131.7
Memphis									
October 15	--	191.0	--	--	111.3	77.0	130.2	--	--
November 15	--	207.3	--	--	111.3	77.0	130.4	--	--
December 15	156.3	206.0	173.0	--	112.1	77.0	131.6	149.8	127.4

TABLE 4 - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES

(Note: Some indexes for October 15 and November 15 revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
Milwaukee									
October 15	--	174.8	--	--	117.3	93.7	133.3	--	--
November 15	--	164.1	--	--	117.3	93.8	133.3	--	--
December 15	150.6	179.7	173.6	--	117.4	93.7	133.6	183.4	134.1
Minneapolis									
October 15	145.9	177.6	169.9	--	109.0	78.9	128.7	165.0	129.0
November 15	148.8	181.7	175.6	--	110.1	78.9	130.5	167.5	131.9
December 15	149.7	180.2	178.8	--	110.7	78.9	131.5	169.9	135.1
Mobile									
October 15	--	182.8	--	--	107.0	83.9	125.8	--	--
November 15	--	193.8	--	--	107.1	83.9	125.8	--	--
December 15	153.6	191.0	169.1	--	107.2	83.9	126.1	160.9	129.7
New Orleans									
October 15	--	196.0	--	--	102.3	75.1	131.4	--	--
November 15	--	207.4	--	--	102.6	75.1	132.0	--	--
December 15	162.9	202.4	180.7	--	102.8	75.1	132.6	170.9	140.1
New York									
October 15	152.8	186.7	184.0	--	116.2	93.9	150.6	164.9	133.7
November 15	154.3	188.6	187.9	--	116.5	94.4	150.4	167.7	134.6
December 15	155.2	186.1	193.1	--	116.6	94.4	150.7	173.9	139.8
Norfolk									
October 15	--	189.3	--	--	122.5	94.9	144.3	--	--
November 15	--	197.0	--	--	122.5	94.9	144.3	--	--
December 15	157.6	195.0	165.9	--	122.5	94.9	144.3	173.2	141.7
Philadelphia									
October 15	147.8	170.2	163.5	--	121.2	92.5	143.2	168.7	128.1
November 15	150.5	181.6	165.6	--	121.1	92.5	142.9	171.7	129.2
December 15	152.5	181.8	173.2	--	121.2	92.5	143.0	178.4	133.3
Pittsburgh									
October 15	149.4	179.3	191.7	--	116.9	103.3	140.2	162.5	126.1
November 15	153.8	186.5	197.6	--	116.9	103.3	140.2	164.6	128.2
December 15	155.4	187.7	200.3	--	116.8	103.2	140.2	172.7	133.3
Portland, Me.									
October 15	--	173.5	--	--	123.9	99.9	136.0	--	--
November 15	--	178.9	--	--	122.5	95.4	136.1	--	--
December 15	149.2	180.5	168.0	--	122.5	95.6	137.4	174.9	133.1

December 1946

TABLE 4 - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES(Note: Some indexes for October 15 and November 15 revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuel & Ice		
Portland, Oreg.									
October 15	--	183.7	--	--	121.9	88.0	163.5	--	--
November 15	--	194.8	--	--	120.0	85.4	162.4	--	--
December 15	157.8	196.0	167.4	--	122.6	88.6	164.3	169.3	158.7
Richmond									
October 15	--	175.9	--	--	112.6	94.2	123.8	--	--
November 15	--	188.2	--	--	112.6	94.2	123.8	--	--
December 15	149.3	186.5	173.6	--	113.1	94.2	124.6	173.8	127.6
St. Louis									
October 15	146.6	183.6	164.2	--	111.6	97.2	124.3	146.4	125.0
November 15	150.6	191.8	166.5	--	111.6	97.2	124.3	148.2	128.3
December 15	151.2	189.3	170.5	--	111.6	97.2	124.3	155.0	130.9
San Francisco									
October 15	153.3	191.4	161.4	--	82.3	72.7	115.2	137.8	142.7
November 15	159.1	205.2	164.4	--	82.3	72.7	115.2	141.7	144.3
December 15	160.4	204.6	169.6	--	82.5	72.7	116.4	149.0	146.4
Savannah									
October 15	155.2	192.2	164.2	--	118.2	91.2	134.5	176.5	135.6
November 15	161.8	209.4	164.8	--	118.6	91.2	135.1	179.6	134.6
December 15	162.2	205.8	169.7	--	120.0	91.2	137.3	188.3	137.0
Scranton									
October 15	--	182.5	--	--	130.3	91.8	153.7	--	--
November 15	--	185.6	--	--	130.1	91.8	153.5	--	--
December 15	154.0	185.2	177.1	--	129.9	91.8	153.2	170.4	131.0
Seattle									
October 15	151.9	186.1	161.5	--	108.8	83.9	129.6	167.1	138.8
November 15	155.3	194.6	164.1	--	108.8	83.9	129.6	166.7	139.7
December 15	157.2	195.9	168.3	--	109.7	83.9	131.2	175.8	141.6
Washington									
October 15	147.6	180.6	186.6	--	117.4	94.4	132.7	168.4	135.6
November 15	150.3	186.8	189.6	--	117.1	94.4	132.2	172.0	137.1
December 15	152.0	186.1	197.9	--	117.7	94.4	133.2	180.3	139.2

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM NOVEMBER 15 TO DECEMBER 15, 1946.

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
				Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	0.7	-1.0	3.2	0.6	0.2	0.8	3.6	2.7
Atlanta, Ga.	-	-1.7	-	6.4	0.1	9.4	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	0.5	-1.4	4.0	0.1	0	0.1	2.7	3.1
Birmingham, Ala.	0.4	-2.5	4.0	0	0	0	5.0	3.0
Boston, Mass.	1.4	0.2	2.2	1.0	1.8	0.7	4.1	5.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.4	0.2	3.8	0.3	0	0.5	2.8	3.1
Chicago, Ill.	0.3	-1.3	3.1	1.4	0	2.4	4.3	1.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.1	-1.6	1.4	0.1	0	0.1	0.3	1.9
Cleveland, Ohio	1.4	-0.9	6.2	1.6	0	2.9	5.2	3.0
Denver, Colo.	0.4	-1.1	2.6	1.1	0	1.9	2.0	1.6
Detroit, Mich.	0.7	-1.3	3.7	0.3	0.4	0.3	1.1	3.2
Houston, Texas	1.5	-0.1	4.7	0	0	0	4.7	2.5
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	-1.6	-	0.6	0	0.8	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	-2.2	-	2.2	0	3.3	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	0.1	-1.5	1.9	0.1	0	0.1	2.5	1.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	0	-1.5	2.6	0	0	0.1	4.1	0.6
Manchester, N. H.	-	0.6	-	0.8	-0.3	1.1	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	-0.6	-	0.7	0	0.9	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	-2.4	-	0.1	-0.1	0.2	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.6	-0.8	1.8	0.5	0	0.8	1.4	2.4
Mobile, Ala.	-	-1.4	-	0.1	0	0.2	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	-2.4	-	0.2	0	0.5	-	-
New York, N. Y.	0.6	-1.3	2.8	0.1	0	0.2	3.7	3.9
Norfolk, Va.	-	-1.0	-	0	0	0	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.3	0.1	4.6	0.1	0	0.1	3.9	3.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.0	-0.4	1.4	-0.1	-0.1	0	4.9	4.0
Portland, Maine	-	0.9	-	0.8	0.2	1.0	-	-
Portland, Oregon	-	0.6	-	2.2	3.7	1.2	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	-0.9	-	0.4	0	0.6	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	0.4	-1.3	2.4	0	0	0	4.6	2.0
San Francisco, Calif.	0.8	-0.3	3.2	0.2	0	1.0	5.2	1.5
Savannah, Ga.	0.2	-1.7	3.0	1.2	0	1.6	4.8	1.8
Scranton, Pa.	-	-0.2	-	-0.2	0	-0.2	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	1.2	0.7	2.6	0.8	0	1.2	5.5	1.4
Washington, D. C.	1.1	-0.4	4.4	0.5	0	0.8	4.8	1.5

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

December 1946

TABLE 5-A - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
 PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
 FROM SEPTEMBER 15, TO DECEMBER 15, 1946

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscol- laneous
				Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	5.1	6.8	6.4	1.0	0.3	1.3	6.9	4.8
Atlanta, Ga.	6.3	8.8	6.1	11.2	6.2	16.9	5.1	4.9
Baltimore, Md.	5.1	6.8	7.8	0.4	0	0.7	6.0	4.9
Birmingham, Ala.	7.7	12.3	5.6	0.4	0	0.5	10.6	6.3
Boston, Mass.	4.7	6.0	4.7	1.0	1.9	0.6	3.7	6.3
Buffalo, N.Y.	4.7	6.7	6.6	1.3	0	2.0	5.1	4.4
Chicago, Ill.	4.7	6.1	5.9	1.7	0	2.3	8.4	4.5
Cincinnati, Ohio	5.0	8.7	4.3	0.1	0	0.1	1.4	3.6
Cleveland, Ohio	5.8	6.7	11.4	1.6	0	2.8	10.1	4.8
Denver, Colo.	7.0	12.1	3.2	1.7	0	2.2	4.2	5.2
Detroit, Mich.	4.4	6.4	6.6	0.3	0.4	0.1	3.2	4.3
Houston, Texas	6.7	9.5	7.8	6.0	0	10.3	7.7	5.0
Indianapolis, Ind.	5.5	6.9	8.6	0.8	0	1.1	8.3	5.0
Jacksonville, Fla.	5.7	7.8	6.6	3.8	0	10.6	2.8	4.7
Kansas City, Mo.	4.2	6.1	4.2	0.9	0	1.3	5.1	4.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	6.2	10.5	5.6	0	0	0.1	10.0	3.0
Manchester, N. H.	6.5	9.8	3.9	0.2	0.2	1.0	8.1	5.7
Memphis, Tenn.	6.9	11.2	8.9	0.8	0	1.1	5.0	4.0
Milwaukee, Wisc.	5.5	5.5	10.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	9.1	6.9
Minneapolis, Minn.	5.1	7.3	6.6	1.6	0	2.2	3.7	4.9
Mobile, Ala.	5.8	8.3	7.0	0.3	0	0.5	5.4	4.6
New Orleans, La.	5.9	6.1	9.4	-0.3	-2.6	1.5	8.4	7.8
New York, N.Y.	3.9	4.1	5.8	0.3	0.5	-0.1	6.4	5.7
Norfolk, Va.	5.9	9.9	1.3	0.2	0	0.3	5.6	6.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	4.5	5.3	6.7	0	0	-0.1	7.0	5.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	5.4	6.1	8.0	-0.1	-0.1	0	9.1	6.7
Portland, Maine	5.5	6.1	4.8	-0.2	-3.7	1.0	7.3	6.6
Portland, Oreg.	4.6	6.2	7.1	0.2	0.8	-0.1	8.0	2.7
Richmond, Va.	6.8	11.4	8.0	0.4	0	0.7	4.1	4.5
St. Louis, Mo.	5.8	8.5	5.1	0	0	0	7.3	5.3
San Francisco, Calif.	6.3	9.7	6.4	0.2	0	1.0	9.6	3.6
Savannah, Ga.	5.5	7.8	5.2	0.8	0	1.2	9.5	3.7
Scranton, Pa.	5.2	6.4	6.1	-0.4	0	-0.5	7.1	6.9
Seattle, Wash.	6.3	11.6	4.8	0.8	0	1.3	5.3	2.5
Washington, D.C.	4.8	6.5	7.6	0.3	0	0.4	11.0	3.3

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 3.

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Bureau of Labor Statistics
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February 27, 1947

CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - JANUARY 15, 1947

January Consumers' Prices Decline 0.1 Percent After 10-Months Continuous Advance

Preliminary figures on the rise in
consumers' prices were released February 15.
Final figures on the change between December
and January are released today.

The 10-month advance amounting to 18.3 percent in the consumers' price index was halted by mid-January, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Retail prices of consumers' goods and services declined 0.1 percent between mid-December and mid-January as lower prices for foods more than offset further advances in the retail prices of other living essentials. This was the first decline since February 1946.

The consumers' price index on January 15, 1947, was 153.1 (1935-39) as compared with 153.3 in mid-December. In mid-January workers' families paid 17.9 percent more for goods and services than a year ago, and 55.3 percent more than in mid-August 1939. The following tabulation shows the month-to-month percentage change in consumers' prices from February 1946 through January 1947.

Month	Percent
February to March	+0.5
March to April	+0.7
April to May	+0.5
May to June	+1.2
June to July	+5.9
July to August	+2.1
August to September	+1.2
September to October	+1.9
October to November	+2.4
November to December	+0.7
December to January	-0.1

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Retail food prices dropped for the 2nd consecutive month from the mid-November all-time high and were 1.1 percent lower in mid-January than in mid-December. A seasonal drop of 10 percent in the price of eggs and lower prices for dairy products and fats and oils were responsible for this reduction in the family food bill. Prices for all other important groups of foods advanced 0.9 percent on the average during the month. Sharp drops in citrus fruit prices were more than offset as prices for all fresh vegetables except green beans advanced.

Clothing prices, which advanced 3.2 percent during the first full month following the removal of price controls in November, rose an additional 1.0 percent between December 15 and January 15.

January 1947

Higher prices were reported for men's topcoats, suits, business shirts, work clothing, and socks, and for women's hosiery, housedresses, and rayon underwear. The family shoe bill was again higher. Prices of men's hats declined, and seasonal reductions were reflected in lower prices for men's and women's coats. Cotton clothing is now 127 percent higher than in August 1939, wool clothing costs have risen 60 percent, and silk, rayon, and nylon apparel 56 percent. Men's clothing which has advanced 84 percent since August 1939, has increased more than women's clothing which has risen 68 percent.

Fuel, electricity and ice costs rose 1.6 percent on the average as higher prices for anthracite and bituminous coal more than outweighed somewhat lower costs for gas and electricity. The January freight rate increase was reflected in higher retail coal prices in nearly all of the cities surveyed. Electricity rates in Manchester and Los Angeles and gas rates in Atlanta decreased fractionally during the month. Gas rates increased in Seattle.

Housefurnishings prices advanced 0.8 percent as prices for most items in this group continued to rise. Costs to consumers of all household appliances except sewing machines increased.

Miscellaneous goods and services costs rose 0.4 percent between mid-December and mid-January. Higher prices for newspapers, motion pictures, tobacco, and household operation caused this rise. Prices for permanent waves were slightly lower in a few cities.

Rents were surveyed in 5 cities in January. No change was reported in New York City and Los Angeles; rents advanced 0.3 percent in Baltimore, and averaged 0.1 and 0.3 percent lower in Kansas City and Savannah. Using the information obtained from these 5 cities surveyed in January, it is estimated that residential rents in large cities have remained generally stable since September 1946 when data were last collected.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

*Note: In June 1944 the Secretary of Labor in releasing the cost of living index for May pointed out some of the difficulties in maintaining such an index during the war. At that time it was explained that "the index is intended to measure only changes in the cost of maintaining essentially the same standard of living and not to measure changes in total family expenditures." From that date forward the Bureau of Labor Statistics with each month's release explained that "the index does not show the full wartime effect on the cost of living of such factors as lowered quality, disappearance of low-priced goods and forced changes in housing and eating away from home." This statement was expanded after the report of the President's Committee on the Cost of Living in November 1944, which recommended: "Under the exceptional market conditions which exist in wartime, and so long as we have a seller's market, allowance should be made for a hidden increase in the cost of living of probably as much as 3 and certainly not more than 4 percentage points, due to quality deterioration, disappearance of cheaper goods, decrease of special sales, and increases in under-reporting of prices actually charged."

In December 1945, the Stabilization Director, in connection with Executive Orders 9599 and 9651, indicated that if account were taken of continued deterioration of quality and unavailability of merchandise between September 1944 and September 1945, the overall allowance for the period from January 1941 to September 1945 would total approximately 5 points for large and small cities combined. No agency has attempted to take account of quality changes and other hidden factors affecting the Consumers' Price Index since September 1945.

The President's Committee in establishing the original adjustment explained that the disadvantage to a buyer in a seller's market "can be expected to disappear as soon as we can resume full production of consumer goods and services in a competitive market." It is evident that several of the factors have disappeared or diminished in importance since the end of the war, such as the failure to measure adequately over-ceiling food prices. Other factors still remain, and some have increased, such as special rental charges. The Bureau has never been able to make any precise estimate of the amount of these adjustments. In fact, the President's Committee noted that the methods applied by its Technical Committee "to estimate the hidden increase in living costs in a seller's market....should not be adopted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics."

These adjustments have not been included in the Consumers' Price Index, although they have been regularly explained in a footnote. The Bureau is dropping the explanation from its press release and is continuing to leave the matter of these adjustments to the users of the index.

Explanation of Tables:

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1.

Wage Base Date. January 1, 1941 is the base date for determining allowable "cost of living" wage increases under the "Little Steel" formula and under the wage-price policy of February 1946. January 1, 1941 indexes in Tables 1 and 2 have been estimated by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing period.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Jan. 15 1947	Dec. 15 1946	Jan. 15 1946	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe
	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0					
ALL ITEMS	153.1	153.3	129.9	129.3	100.8	98.6
All Foods	183.8	185.9	141.0	140.9	97.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	143.4	141.7R	109.4	109.1	94.8	93.4
Meats	199.0	197.8	131.4	131.8	99.2	95.7
Dairy products	190.1	200.9	136.4	133.4	106.2	93.1
Eggs	181.7	201.1	172.4	171.4	104.6	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	107.9	185.0	180.8	183.5	91.8	92.4
Beverages	178.3	176.2	124.9	124.7	90.6	94.9
Fats & oils	201.9	207.3	125.5	124.0	80.2	84.5
Sugar & sweets	176.2	175.3	126.5	126.6	95.0	95.6
Clothing	178.3	176.5	149.7	146.4	101.2	100.3
Rent	108.8	--	--	--	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	117.3	115.5	110.8	111.4	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	91.9	92.0	93.8	95.2	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	142.0	138.3	127.3	127.2	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	178.5	177.1	148.8	146.0	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	136.6	136.1	125.4	124.5	101.8	100.4
	Percentage Change to January 1947					
ALL ITEMS	--	-0.1	17.9	18.4	51.9	55.3
All Foods	--	-1.1	30.4	30.4	88.3	96.6
Cereals & bakery products	--	1.2	31.1	31.4	51.3	53.5
Meats	--	0.6	51.4	51.0	100.6	107.9
Dairy products	--	-5.4	39.4	42.5	79.0	104.2
Eggs	--	-9.6	5.4	6.0	73.7	100.3
Fruits & vegetables	--	1.6	3.9	2.4	104.7	103.4
Beverages	--	1.2	42.8	43.0	96.8	87.9
Fats & oils	--	-2.6	60.9	62.8	151.7	138.9
Sugar & sweets	--	0.5	39.3	39.2	85.5	84.3
Clothing	--	1.0	19.1	21.8	76.2	77.8
Rent	--	1/ 0	--	--	3.6	4.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	--	1.6	5.9	5.3	16.4	20.3
Gas & electricity	--	-0.1	-2.0	-3.5	-5.7	-7.2
Other fuels & ice	--	2.7	11.5	11.6	36.5	47.5
Housefurnishings	--	0.8	20.0	22.3	78.1	77.4
Miscellaneous	--	0.4	8.9	9.7	34.2	36.1

R-Revised

* See General Explanation of Tables on page 4.

1/ Change from September 1946.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
JANUARY INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JANUARY 1947
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0	Percent changes to January 1947 from				
	Jan. 15 1947	Dec. 15 1946	Jan. 15 1946	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	153.1	-0.1	17.9	18.4	51.9	55.3
Baltimore, Md.	156.2	0.3	18.2	17.8	55.1	58.3
Birmingham, Ala.	158.4	-0.1	18.8	18.3	55.9	60.8
Boston, Mass.	148.3	0.1	18.2	18.0	49.6	52.7
Buffalo, N. Y.	152.5	0.5	17.5	17.9	49.7	54.8
Chicago, Ill.	152.9	-0.1	19.4	19.5	51.1	54.9
Cincinnati, Ohio	152.6	-0.1	17.7	18.0	53.2	56.8
Cleveland, Ohio	155.8	-0.3	17.9	17.9	52.7	55.8
Denver, Colo.	151.0	-1.0	18.1	18.2	51.0	53.1
Detroit, Mich.	152.8	-0.2	15.5	16.5	51.3	55.1
Houston, Tex.	153.7	0.9	20.8	20.6	50.7	52.6
Kansas City, Mo.	147.6	0.4	15.4	15.7	50.0	49.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	155.0	0.3	16.8	18.3	51.2	54.2
Minneapolis, Minn.	148.2	-1.0	17.3	18.7	45.6	48.6
New York, N. Y.	154.4	-0.5	17.5	18.8	52.9	56.0
Philadelphia, Pa.	152.2	-0.2	18.2	18.5	53.4	55.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	155.4	0	18.3	19.4	53.6	57.9
St. Louis, Mo.	151.0	-0.1	17.3	18.4	49.5	53.9
San Francisco, Calif.	159.1	-0.8	18.6	20.1	56.3	60.2
Savannah, Ga.	162.2	0	17.9	17.3	60.0	63.3
Seattle, Wash.	155.5	-1.1	16.5	17.0	52.3	55.0
Washington, D. C.	151.9	-0.1	16.0	17.8	52.1	54.1

* See General Explanation of Tables on page 4.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, JANUARY 1947

(Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Total	Electricity & Ice Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice	House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
AVERAGE	153.1	133.3	176.3	108.8	117.3	91.9	142.0	178.5	136.6
Atlanta, Ga.	--	187.5	--	--	123.4	78.3	174.5	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	156.2	191.4	182.3	107.2	119.7	96.5	138.5	162.4	136.0
Birmingham, Ala.	153.4	196.0	171.8	--	120.5	77.6	151.2	169.3	134.1
Boston, Mass.	143.3	177.6	170.2	--	126.9	104.6	139.0	168.1	132.8
Buffalo, N.Y.	152.5	175.9	179.4	--	119.5	94.9	141.4	164.2	142.0
Chicago, Ill.	152.9	184.5	175.0	--	110.3	83.5	138.1	170.5	134.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	152.6	182.4	171.6	--	115.2	90.8	138.5	171.6	137.4
Cleveland, Ohio	155.8	189.1	177.1	--	122.0	104.9	133.5	166.2	136.3
Denver, Colo.	151.0	185.0	169.0	--	102.5	77.3	132.1	195.2	133.6
Detroit, Mich.	152.0	176.5	174.2	--	121.8	84.7	150.0	179.6	147.5
Houston, Texas	153.7	192.5	174.8	--	94.2	81.9	127.2	181.5	135.8
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	180.0	--	--	122.8	86.6	144.1	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	190.3	--	--	127.6	92.8	157.8	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	147.6	175.4	164.0	110.1	121.2	91.2	148.6	166.9	136.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	155.0	194.3	171.4	111.7	94.5	89.3	119.3	175.5	135.6
Manchester, N.H.	--	183.6	--	--	128.6	93.7	146.1	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	200.2	--	--	113.6	77.0	134.2	--	--
Milwaukee, Wis.	--	178.0	--	--	117.5	93.9	133.7	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	143.2	174.0	181.0	--	111.7	73.9	133.2	173.2	135.1
Mobile, Ala.	--	189.2	--	--	107.4	84.0	126.4	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	197.7	--	--	102.8	75.1	132.6	--	--
New York, N.Y.	154.4	185.5	193.3	103.5	117.1	94.4	152.0	175.6	140.2
Norfolk, Va.	--	191.3	--	--	125.3	94.9	149.3	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	152.2	179.7	175.8	--	122.8	92.5	146.0	179.5	133.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	155.4	185.2	203.7	--	119.4	103.2	147.3	179.2	133.5
Portland, Maine	--	179.8	--	--	125.1	95.3	139.8	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	192.8	--	--	123.8	83.5	166.9	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	181.5	--	--	115.6	94.2	128.7	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	151.0	187.4	172.1	--	114.3	97.2	129.5	155.7	131.0
San Francisco, Calif.	159.1	200.6	170.3	--	82.5	72.7	116.4	150.2	146.5
Savannah, Ga.	162.2	203.8	170.3	115.1	121.5	91.2	139.7	192.0	138.7
Scranton, Pa.	--	180.9	--	--	129.9	91.8	153.2	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	155.5	189.6	171.2	--	111.7	86.1	133.0	176.1	141.9
Washington, D.C.	151.9	183.7	200.9	--	119.7	94.4	136.6	182.3	139.5

* See General Explanation on Tables on Page 4.

January 1947

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
 PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
 FROM DECEMBER 15, 1946 TO JANUARY 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	-0.1	-1.1	1.0	¹ / ₀	1.6	-0.1	2.7	0.8	0.4
Atlanta, Ga.	--	-0.6	--	² / ₋₋	-0.7	-5.8	1.6	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	0.3	-0.5	1.8	² / _{0.3}	1.4	0	2.2	0.2	0.6
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.1	-1.2	1.0	--	5.1	0	7.4	1.7	0
Boston, Mass.	0.1	-0.3	0.5	--	1.2	-0.2	1.7	-0.7	0.3
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.5	0.1	0.4	--	1.5	0	2.5	0.6	1.4
Chicago, Ill.	-0.1	-1.3	1.7	--	2.4	0	4.0	0.1	1.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.1	-0.9	0.3	--	1.6	0	2.7	1.0	0.4
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.3	-1.2	1.4	--	1.7	0	2.8	-1.9	0.3
Denver, Colo.	-1.0	-2.9	1.3	--	0.1	0	0.2	1.5	0.6
Detroit, Mich.	-0.2	-1.5	1.2	--	1.3	0.4	4.6	0.5	0.2
Houston, Texas	0.9	1.4	1.7	--	0.1	0.1	0	1.3	0.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	-2.3	--	--	2.8	0	4.0	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	-2.3	--	¹ / ₋₋	0.2	0	0.3	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0.4	0	0.9	¹ / _{-0.1}	2.1	0	4.1	1.0	0.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.3	-0.4	1.8	² / ₀	2.2	-1.9	19.4	1.4	1.4
Manchester, N. H.	--	-1.7	--	--	0	-2.8	1.0	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	-2.8	--	--	1.5	0	2.0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	-0.9	--	--	0.1	0.2	0.1	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	-1.0	-3.4	1.2	--	0.9	0	1.3	1.9	0
Mobile, Ala.	--	-0.9	--	--	0.2	0.1	0.2	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	-1.3	--	¹ / ₋₋	0	0	0	--	--
New York, N. Y.	-0.5	-1.4	0.1	¹ / ₀	0.4	0	0.0	1.0	0.3
Norfolk, Va.	--	-1.9	--	--	1.3	0	3.5	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.2	-1.2	1.5	--	1.3	0	2.1	0.6	-0.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0	-1.5	1.7	--	2.2	0	5.1	3.8	0.2
Portland, Maine	--	-0.4	--	--	1.3	-0.3	1.7	--	--
Portland, Ore.	--	-1.6	--	--	1.0	-0.1	1.6	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	-2.7	--	--	2.2	0	3.3	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.1	-1.0	0.9	--	2.4	0	4.2	0.5	0.1
San Francisco, Cal.	-0.8	-2.0	0.4	--	0	0	0	0.8	0.1
Savannah, Ga.	0	-1.0	0.4	² / _{-0.3}	1.2	0	1.7	2.0	1.2
Scranton, Pa.	--	-2.3	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	-1.1	-3.2	1.7	--	1.8	2.6	1.5	0.2	0.2
Washington, D.C.	-0.1	-1.3	1.5	--	1.7	0	2.6	1.1	0.2

*See General Explanation of Tables on Page 1.

¹/ Change from Sept. 1946²/ Change from Aug. 1946

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - FEBRUARY 15, 1947

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Consumers' Prices Declined 0.2 Percent Between January 15 and February 15

Preliminary figures were released on March 15.
The complete report on the movement of retail prices
between mid-January and mid-February is given in this
report.

Retail prices of living essentials commonly bought by moderate-income city families averaged 0.2 percent lower on February 15 than on January 15, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Further declines in the family food bill more than offset higher prices for all major groups of items in the family budget. Retail food prices dropped 0.8 percent; all other living essentials advanced 0.4 percent between mid-January and mid-February.

This small overall decline between January and February--the second since the mid-December all-time high--is in contrast to the rapid advances of 1 and 2 percent a month during the last half of 1946. The consumers' price index on February 15, 1947, was 152.8 (1935-39 = 100). In mid-February consumers goods and services used by families in large cities were 17.9 percent higher than a year ago and 51.6 percent above the January 1, 1941 level.

Retail food prices in large cities declined 0.8 percent between mid-January and mid-February, and on February 15 were 2.9 percent below the mid-November all-time high of 187.7 (1935-39 = 100). A seasonal drop of 6.5 percent in egg prices was accompanied by a 3.6 percent decline for dairy products and lower prices for meats, fish, poultry. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices advanced 2.8 percent on the average during the month as green beans increased 35 percent and lettuce rose 13 percent. Retail prices of coffee and sugar continued to advance.

Clothing prices, advancing for the 44th consecutive month, were 1.1 percent higher in mid-February than in mid-January and have risen almost 80 percent since August 1939. Prices of women's clothing advanced sharply between mid-January and mid-February. Higher prices were reported for cotton housedresses, rayon dresses, hosiery, and undergarments reflecting earlier increases in manufacturer's prices. Prices of men's suits and topcoats, and work clothing, also rose in most cities. Prices of footwear advanced 1.2 percent during the month.

Housefurnishings prices increased 0.6 percent between mid-January and mid-February as prices of washing machines, gas stoves, and floor coverings continued to rise. Miscellaneous goods and services costs rose 0.1 percent. Higher prices for gasoline, newspapers, motion picture admissions, and beauty shop services more than offset slightly lower prices for household cleaning supplies.

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February 1947

Based on rent change in 6 cities, it was estimated that the rent index for all large cities combined increased 0.1 percent to 108.9 on February 15, 1947. Rents advanced 0.3 percent in Memphis and New Orleans and 0.4 percent in Washington between September 1946 and February 1947 and 0.4 in Philadelphia between August 1946 and February 1947.

Fuel, electricity and ice costs rose 0.2 percent on the average. Changes in rates increased the cost of gas to domestic consumers in Philadelphia by 11 percent; rate reductions lowered electricity costs to Denver consumers by 21 percent.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities, formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose income averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 3, which have been estimated for January 1.

Wage Base Date. January 1, 1941 is the base date for determining allowable "cost of living" wage increases under the "Little Steel" formula and under the wage-price policy of February 1946. January 1, 1941 indexes in Tables 1 and 2 have been estimated by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing period.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

February 1947

TABLE 1 CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Feb. 15 1947	Jan. 15 1947	Feb. 15 1946	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0						
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All Foods	182.3	183.8	139.6	140.9	97.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	144.1	143.4	109.8	109.1	94.8	93.4
Meats	196.7	199.0	131.3	131.8	99.2	95.7
Dairy products	183.2	190.1	136.6	133.4	106.2	93.1
Eggs	169.9	181.7	144.2	171.4	104.6	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	194.7	187.9	181.1	183.5	91.8	92.4
Beverages	182.8	178.3	124.9	124.7	90.6	94.9
Fats & oils	201.3	201.9	125.4	124.0	80.2	84.5
Sugar & sweets	178.1	176.2	126.9	126.6	95.0	95.6
Clothing	180.2	178.3	150.5	146.4	101.2	100.3
Rent	108.9	108.8	-	-	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	117.5	117.3	111.0	111.4	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.2	91.9	93.8	95.2	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	142.1	142.0	127.8	127.2	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	179.6	178.5	149.7	146.0	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	136.7	136.6	125.6	124.5	101.8	100.4
Percent Changes to February 1947						
ALL ITEMS	-	-0.2	17.9	18.2	51.6	55.0
All foods	-	-0.8	30.6	29.4	86.8	95.0
Cereals & bakery products	-	0.5	31.2	32.1	52.0	54.3
Meats	-	-1.2	49.8	49.2	98.3	105.5
Dairy products	-	-3.6	34.1	37.3	72.5	96.8
Eggs	-	-6.5	17.8	-0.9	62.4	87.3
Fruits & vegetables	-	2.0	5.9	4.5	108.8	107.5
Beverages	-	2.5	46.4	46.6	101.8	92.6
Fats & oils	-	-0.3	60.5	62.3	151.0	138.2
Sugar & sweets	-	1.1	40.3	40.7	87.5	86.3
Clothing	-	1.1	19.7	23.1	78.1	79.7
Rent	-	0.1	-	-	3.7	4.4
Fuel, electricity & ice	-	0.2	5.9	5.5	16.6	20.5
Gas & electricity	-	0.3	-1.7	-3.2	-5.4	-6.9
Other fuels & ice	-	0.1	11.2	11.7	36.6	47.6
Housefurnishings	-	0.6	20.0	23.0	79.2	78.5
Miscellaneous	-	0.1	8.8	9.8	34.3	36.2

* See General explanation of tables on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
FEBRUARY INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO FEBRUARY, 1947
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0	Percent changes to February, 1947 from				
	Feb. 15, 1947	Jan. 15 1947	Feb. 15 1946	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month before War in Europe
AVERAGE	152.8	-0.2	17.9	18.2	51.6	55.0
Baltimore, Md.	155.8	-0.3	18.5	17.5	54.7	57.9
Birmingham, Ala.	157.5	-0.6	18.5	17.6	55.0	59.9
Boston, Mass.	146.8	-1.0	17.4	16.8	48.1	51.2
Buffalo, N.Y.	152.0	-0.3	17.1	17.5	49.2	54.3
Chicago, Ill.	152.6	-0.2	19.4	19.3	50.8	54.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	153.2	0.4	18.8	18.5	53.8	57.5
Cleveland, Ohio	155.4	-0.3	18.1	17.6	52.4	55.4
Denver, Colo.	151.7	0.5	18.5	18.8	51.7	53.9
Detroit, Mich.	152.6	-0.1	15.6	16.3	51.1	54.9
Houston, Tex.	153.7	0	21.2	20.6	50.7	52.6
Kansas City, Mo.	148.3	0.5	16.5	16.2	50.7	50.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	155.4	0.3	17.3	18.6	51.6	54.6
Minneapolis, Minn.	148.8	0.4	18.1	19.1	46.2	49.2
New York, N. Y.	153.9	-0.3	17.2	18.4	52.4	55.5
Philadelphia, Pa.	151.5	-0.5	18.1	18.0	52.7	54.9
Pittsburgh, Pa.	155.7	0.2	18.9	19.6	53.9	58.2
St. Louis, Mo.	151.6	0.4	18.3	18.9	50.1	54.5
San Francisco, Calif.	158.1	-0.6	18.4	19.3	55.3	59.2
Savannah, Ga.	162.3	0.1	17.3	17.4	60.1	63.4
Seattle, Wash.	155.0	-0.3	16.0	16.6	51.8	54.5
Washington, D. C.	151.3	-0.4	16.1	17.4	51.5	53.4

*See general explanation of tables on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, FEBRUARY 1947

Page 6
February 1947

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	152.8	182.3	180.2	108.9	117.5	92.2	142.1	179.6	136.7
Atlanta, Ga.	--	187.5	--	--	128.4	78.3	174.5	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	155.8	189.7	182.8	--	119.7	96.5	138.5	185.3	136.3
Birmingham, Ala.	157.5	193.5	171.8	--	120.5	79.6	151.2	168.3	134.1
Boston, Mass.	146.8	172.7	173.3	--	126.9	104.5	139.1	169.2	135.3
Buffalo, N.Y.	152.0	173.3	182.0	--	119.5	94.9	141.4	185.7	141.9
Chicago, Ill.	152.6	183.2	177.2	--	110.4	83.5	138.3	171.0	134.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	153.2	182.8	174.2	--	115.2	90.8	138.5	175.7	137.3
Cleveland, Ohio	155.4	186.9	179.3	--	122.0	104.9	138.5	166.8	136.3
Denver, Colo.	151.7	185.7	174.1	--	99.3	68.5	134.7	197.0	133.6
Detroit, Mich.	152.6	175.1	175.5	--	121.7	84.3	150.0	181.2	147.9
Houston, Texas	153.7	190.6	177.3	--	94.2	81.9	127.2	184.2	136.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	179.9	--	116.0	122.8	86.6	144.0	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	189.3	--	--	127.6	92.8	157.8	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	148.3	176.6	167.5	--	121.2	91.2	148.6	167.0	136.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	155.4	194.1	172.9	--	94.5	89.3	119.3	178.3	136.1
Manchester, N.H.	--	177.5	--	--	128.5	93.7	145.9	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	198.6	--	115.6	113.8	77.0	134.2	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	180.1	--	--	118.7	94.4	135.4	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	148.8	174.6	184.9	--	112.2	78.9	134.0	172.6	135.3
Mobile, Ala.	--	188.7	--	--	107.4	84.1	126.4	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	199.1	--	107.2	102.8	75.1	132.6	--	--
New York, N.Y.	153.9	182.1	194.6	--	117.0	94.4	151.7	175.4	139.8
Norfolk, Va.	--	191.6	--	--	125.3	94.9	149.3	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	151.5	177.2	176.1	107.7	125.2	97.8	146.0	179.7	133.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	155.7	185.6	205.1	--	119.5	103.3	147.3	179.0	133.8
Portland, Maine	--	174.3	--	--	125.1	95.3	139.8	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	191.2	--	--	121.9	88.3	163.0	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	182.1	--	--	115.6	94.2	128.7	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	151.6	188.4	174.6	--	114.3	97.2	129.5	154.8	131.1
San Francisco, Calif.	158.1	195.4	174.0	106.8	82.5	72.7	116.4	151.1	147.3
Savannah, Ga.	162.3	203.1	173.8	--	121.5	91.2	139.7	190.7	139.0
Scranton, Pa.	--	182.6	--	--	129.9	91.8	153.2	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	155.0	187.4	172.4	--	111.9	86.1	133.3	177.1	142.1
Washington, D.C.	151.3	181.3	199.8	100.7	120.5	94.4	137.8	184.3	139.6

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 3.

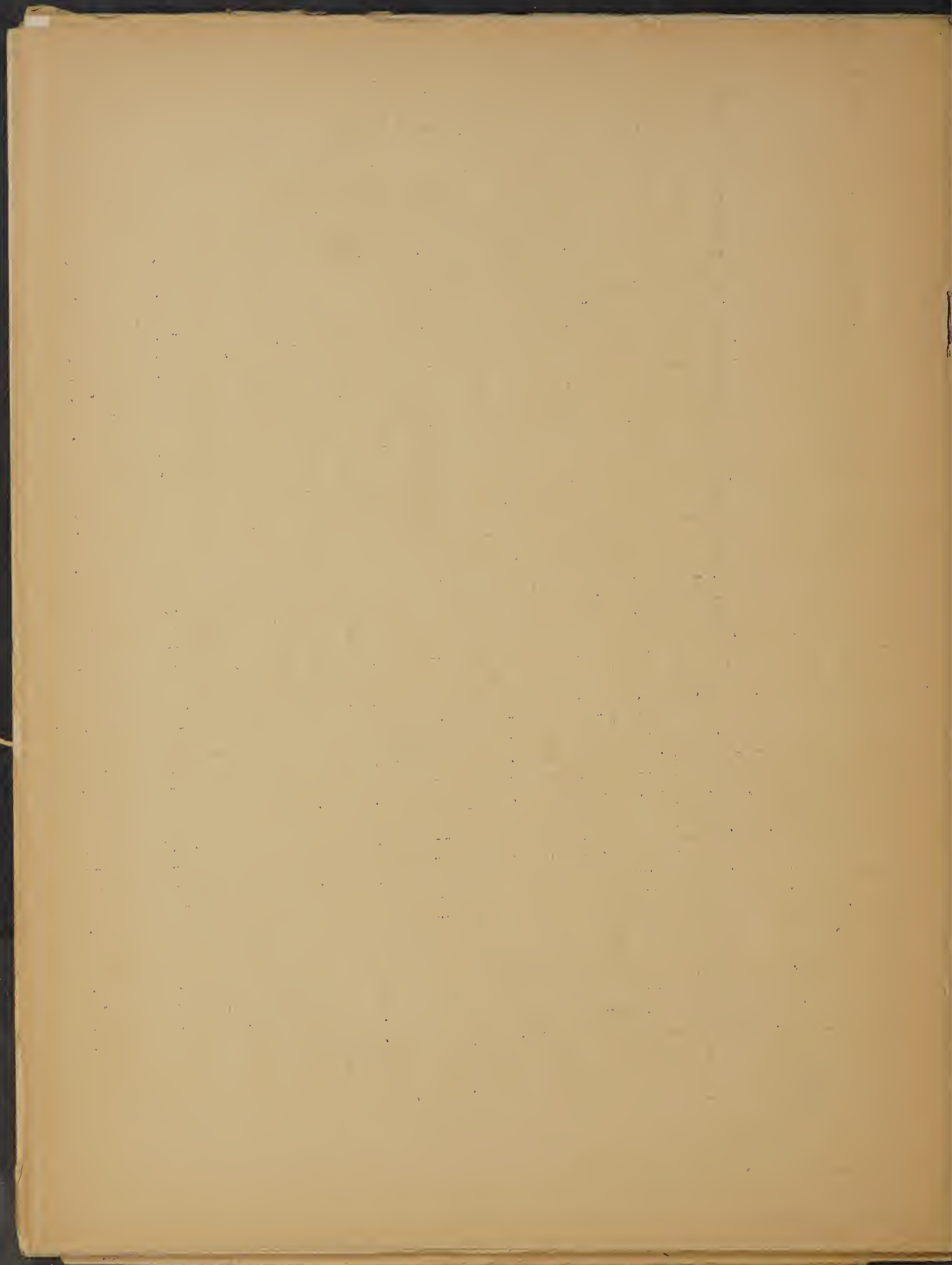
TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
 PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
 FROM JANUARY 15, TO FEBRUARY 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Electricity & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	-0.2	-0.8	1.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	--	0	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
Baltimore, Md.	-0.3	-0.9	0.3	--	0	0	0	1.6	0.2
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.6	-1.3	0	--	0	0	0	-0.6	0
Boston, Mass.	-1.0	-2.8	1.8	--	0	-0.1	0.1	0.7	0.4
Buffalo, N.Y.	-0.3	-1.5	1.4	--	0	0	0	0.8	-0.1
Chicago, Ill.	-0.2	-0.7	1.3	--	0.1	0	0.1	0.3	-0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.4	0.2	1.5	--	0	0	0	2.4	-0.1
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.3	-1.2	1.5	--	0	0	0	0.4	0
Denver, Colo.	0.5	0.4	3.0	--	-3.1	-11.4	2.0	0.9	0
Detroit, Mich.	-0.1	-0.8	0.7	--	-0.1	-0.5	0	0.9	0.3
Houston, Texas	0	-1.0	1.4	--	0	0	0	1.5	0.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	--	-0.1	--	<u>2/</u> -0.1	0	0	-0.1	--	--
Jacksonville, Fla.	--	-0.5	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
Kansas City, Mo.	0.5	0.7	2.1	--	0	0	0	0.1	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.3	-0.1	0.9	--	0	0	0	1.6	0.4
Manchester, N.H.	--	-3.3	--	--	-0.1	0	-0.1	--	--
Memphis, Tenn.	--	-0.8	--	<u>2/</u> 0.3	0	0	0	--	--
Milwaukee, Wisc.	--	1.2	--	--	1.0	0.5	1.3	--	--
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.4	0.3	2.2	--	0.4	0	0.6	-0.3	0.1
Mobile, Ala.	--	-0.3	--	--	0	0.1	0	--	--
New Orleans, La.	--	-0.3	--	<u>2/</u> 0.3	0	0	0	--	--
New York, N.Y.	-0.3	-0.8	0.7	--	-0.1	0	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3
Norfolk, Va.	--	0.2	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.5	-1.4	0.2	<u>1/</u> 0.4	2.0	5.7	0	0.1	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.2	0.2	0.7	--	0.1	0.1	0	-0.1	0.2
Portland, Maine	--	-3.1	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
Portland, Oreg.	--	-0.8	--	--	-1.5	-0.2	-2.3	--	--
Richmond, Va.	--	0.3	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
St. Louis, Mo.	0.4	0.5	1.5	--	0	0	0	-0.6	0.1
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.6	-2.6	2.2	<u>1/</u> 0.1	0	0	0	0.6	0.5
Savannah, Ga.	0.1	-0.3	2.1	--	0	0	0	-0.7	0.2
Scranton, Pa.	--	0.9	--	--	0	0	0	--	--
Seattle, Wash.	-0.3	-1.2	0.7	--	0.2	0	0.2	0.6	0.1
Washington, D.C.	-0.4	-1.3	-0.5	<u>2/</u> 0.4	0.7	0	0.9	1.1	0.1

* See General Explanation of Tables on Page 3.

1/ Change from August 15, 1946

2/ Change from September 15, 1946



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Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - MARCH 15, 1947

MAY 12 1947

Consumers' Prices in Mid-March Highest on Record

Preliminary figures on the rise in consumers' prices between February 15 and March 15 were released on April 19. Final figures are now available.

Consumers' goods and services for moderate-income families were 2.0 percent higher in mid-March than in mid-February, according to the final figures of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. This advance brought the Consumers' Price Index to a record high of 156.3 (1935-39=100) on March 15, 1947; it followed a two-month period in which retail prices remained unchanged or decreased slightly.

Retail prices for all major groups of living essentials advanced. Food prices in large cities jumped almost 4 percent; clothing prices rose 1.5 percent; housefurnishings and miscellaneous goods and services advanced 0.6 percent; rent fuels and light increased fractionally. In mid-March, consumers' prices were 20 percent higher than a year ago, and 58.5 percent above August 1939.

The family food bill -- amounting to more than two-fifths of the moderate-income city families' budget -- advanced 3.9 percent between February 15 and March 15, after declining 2.9 percent between mid-November and mid-February. Prices for all major groups of foods rose. Meats averaged 5.5 percent higher as prices for pork increased more than 13 percent. Fresh fruits and vegetables advanced 5.3 percent, reflecting the February freeze of the winter vegetable crops. Prices of fats and oils averaged 9 percent higher as lard prices jumped nearly 20 percent. All other food prices rose 2.1 percent between February 15 and March 15. Between mid-March and mid-April food prices usually increase; this year, however, food prices dropped about one-half percent according to a special survey.

On March 15, the food price index was 189.5 (1935-39=100). Food prices in large cities have advanced almost 103 percent since the month before the outbreak of war in Europe. Prices of fats and oils are 159 percent higher than in August 1939; meat and fresh fruits and vegetables have each risen 116 percent; prices of dairy products are 101 percent above August 1939.

Clothing prices rose 1.5 percent between February and March, 4.4 percent over the quarter from December 1946 to March 1947. Prices for nearly all garments and shoes increased from February 15 to March 15. Higher prices were reported for men's wool clothing, business shirts, work clothing, and underclothing in most cities. Prices of women's rayon dresses, slips and hosiery also advanced. The cost of leather footwear and shoe repairs for all members of the family rose again.

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Housefurnishings prices increased 0.8 percent between mid-February and mid-March as most items in this group continued to advance. Prices for gas stoves, washing machines, and bedroom suites advanced; prices for small table-model radios, higher quality electric refrigerators, upholstered furniture, and mattresses declined in some cities.

Miscellaneous goods and services costs rose 0.6 percent. Costs of medical care - especially hospital rates - increased. Prices also went up for gasoline, newspapers, and auto insurance. Slightly lower prices were reported for some automobiles.

Fuel, electricity, and ice costs increased 0.1 percent during the month as prices for petroleum products advanced in a number of cities.

Information on changes in residential rents was obtained from a small group of dwellings in 6 cities in March. On the basis of this information, it was estimated that the rent index for all large cities combined increased 0.1 percent to 109.0 (1935-39=100) on March 15, 1947. Rents advanced in Mobile as higher rates were charged for public housing.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items prices for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose income averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, on Tables 1 and 3, which have been estimated for January 1.

Wage Base Date. January 1, 1941 is the base date for determining allowable "cost of living" wage increases under the "Little Steel" formula and under the wage-price policy of February 1946. January 1, 1941 indexes in Tables 1 and 2 have been estimated by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing period.

Food prices are collected monthly in 50 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the Tuesday nearest the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

TABLE 1 CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEX 3 AND PERCENT CHANGES

	Mar. 15 1947	Feb. 15 1947	Mar. 15 1946	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1, 1941	Aug. 15 1939
Group	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe

Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0

ALL ITEMS	156.3	153.2R	130.2	129.3	100.8	98.6
All foods	189.5	182.3	140.1	140.9	97.6	97.5
Cereals & bakery products	143.1	144.1	110.3	109.1	94.8	93.4
Meats	207.6	196.7	131.3	171.8	99.2	95.7
Dairy products	187.5	183.2	137.0	143.4	106.2	91.1
Eggs	174.7	169.9	139.0	171.4	104.0	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	139.6	131.7	133.4	133.5	91.8	82.4
Beverages	166.9	162.8	124.9	124.7	90.6	94.9
Fats & Oils	212.1	201.3	125.9	124.0	80.2	74.5
Sugar & sweets	178.6	173.1	132.4	126.6	85.0	95.0
Clothing	164.3	161.5R	153.1	146.4	101.2	100.3
Rent	102.0	103.9	108.4	-	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	117.6	117.5	110.5	111.4	100.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.2	92.2	92.9	95.2	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	142.5	142.3R	127.7	127.2	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	132.3	130.3R	110.2	146.0	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	133.2	137.4R	125.9	124.3	101.3	100.4

Percent Changes to March 15, 1947

ALL ITEMS	-	2.0	20.0	20.9	55.1	58.5
All foods	-	3.9	35.3	34.5	94.2	102.7
Cereals & bakery products	-	2.2	34.3	35.7	56.2	53.6
Meats	-	5.5	58.1	57.5	109.2	116.9
Dairy products	-	2.3	36.9	40.2	76.6	101.4
Eggs	-	2.8	25.7	1.9	67.0	92.6
Fruits & vegetables	-	4.1	3.3	8.3	117.4	116.0
Beverages	-	2.2	49.6	49.9	106.3	96.9
Fats & Oils	-	3.3	74.0	76.7	173.2	159.3
Sugar & sweets	-	0.3	34.9	41.1	88.0	36.8
Clothing	-	1.5	20.4	25.9	82.1	35.7
Rent	-	0.1	0.6	-	3.3	4.5
Fuel, electricity & ice	-	0.1	6.4	5.6	16.7	20.6
Gas & electricity	-	0	-0.3	-3.2	-5.4	-6.9
Other fuels & ice	-	0.1	11.6	12.0	37.0	48.0
Housefurnishings	-	0.8	21.4	24.9	81.9	81.2
Miscellaneous	-	0.0	9.3	11.0	35.8	37.6

* See General explanation of tables on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
MARCH INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO MARCH 15, 1947
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES:

City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0	Percent changes to March 15, 1947 from				
	Mar. 15, 1947	Feb. 15 1947	Mar. 15 1946	Aug. 15 1935	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	156.3	2.0	20.0	20.9	55.1	58.5
Atlanta, Ga.	160.9	-	22.3	22.5	61.2	64.2
Baltimore, Md.	159.6	2.4	20.8	20.4	58.5	61.7
Birmingham, Ala.	162.0	2.5	21.6	21.0	59.4	64.5
Boston, Mass.	150.3	2.0	19.6	19.6	51.7	54.8
Buffalo, N.Y.	155.3	1.9	19.3	20.0	52.4	57.7
Chicago, Ill.	156.2	2.2	22.0	22.1	54.3	58.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	157.0	2.5	21.3	21.4	57.6	61.4
Cleveland, Ohio	159.2	2.1	20.9	20.5	56.1	59.2
Denver, Colo.	154.8	1.7	20.1	21.2	54.3	57.0
Detroit, Mich.	156.5	2.2	19.4	19.3	55.0	58.9
Houston, Tex.	157.1	1.9	23.1	23.3	54.0	56.0
Indianapolis, Ind.	157.5	-	21.2	21.2	54.4	60.7
Jacksonville, Fla.	163.4	-	20.1	18.7	60.4	65.9
Kansas City, Mo.	150.3	1.4	18.1	18.2	52.3	52.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	156.9	0.6	17.9	19.8	53.1	56.1
Manchester, N.H.	158.1	-	20.7	20.5	57.8	61.7
Memphis, Tenn.	158.3	-	19.8	19.3	59.1	62.4
Milwaukee, Wis.	154.5	-	21.6	21.7	55.7	59.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	151.6	1.7	20.2	21.4	48.9	52.1
Mobile, Ala.	159.2	-	21.2	20.8	58.6	61.5
New Orleans, La.	164.5	-	22.4	22.2	61.8	65.0
New York, N.Y.	157.4	2.1	19.1	21.1	55.3	59.0
Norfolk, Va.	160.9	-	20.3	20.3	59.9	64.5
Philadelphia, Pa.	156.1	3.0	20.6	21.6	57.4	59.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	159.2	1.7	21.3	22.3	57.3	61.8
Portland, Maine	152.5	-	20.3	20.1	54.8	57.1
Portland, Oreg.	160.6	-	18.2	18.3	57.5	60.4
Richmond, Va.	152.9	-	21.3	21.3	53.5	56.0
St. Louis, Mo.	155.8	2.6	21.3	22.2	54.3	58.8
San Francisco, Calif.	160.3	1.2	20.0	21.0	57.5	61.4
Savannah, Ga.	166.6	2.5	20.1	20.5	64.3	67.8
Scranton, Pa.	157.3	-	22.3	23.3	58.6	63.9
Seattle, Wash.	158.2	1.8	17.9	19.0	54.9	57.7
Washington, D.C.	154.7	2.1	17.9	20.0	54.9	56.9

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES

(Note: Some indexes for January 15 and February 15 revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other fuels & ice		
AVERAGE									
January	153.3	183.8	179.0	108.8	117.3	91.9	142.1	179.1	137.1
February	153.2	182.3	181.5	108.9	117.5	92.2	142.3	180.8	137.4
March	156.3	189.5	184.3	109.0	117.6	92.2	142.5	182.3	138.2
Atlanta									
January	-	187.5	-	-	128.4	78.3	174.5	-	-
February	-	187.5	-	-	128.5	78.3	174.5	-	-
March	160.9	199.6	179.0	-	128.5	78.3	174.6	185.5	145.2
Baltimore									
January	156.2	191.4	182.8	107.2	119.9	96.5	138.8	181.5	136.1
February	155.9	189.7	184.0	-	119.9	96.5	138.8	184.1	136.4
March	159.6	199.3	185.7	-	120.0	96.5	138.9	182.9	136.7
Birmingham									
January	158.7	196.0	173.5	-	120.5	79.6	151.2	169.9	134.2
February	158.1	193.5	175.2	-	120.5	79.6	151.2	169.5	134.3
March	162.0	202.9	179.5	-	120.5	79.6	151.2	172.3	134.6
Boston									
January	148.7	177.6	170.8	-	126.8	104.6	138.9	169.0	134.8
February	147.4	172.7	174.5	-	126.9	104.5	139.1	171.0	135.5
March	150.3	180.0	172.7	105.6	127.0	104.6	139.2	173.7	136.2
Buffalo									
January	152.7	175.9	180.3	-	119.5	94.9	141.4	185.0	142.2
February	152.4	173.3	183.8	-	119.5	94.9	141.4	187.5	142.4
March	155.3	179.7	187.2	-	119.5	94.9	141.4	189.8	143.4
Chicago									
January	153.0	184.5	175.5	-	110.3	83.5	138.1	171.2	134.9
February	152.8	183.2	178.1	-	110.4	83.5	138.3	172.2	134.8
March	156.2	190.8	182.4	-	110.7	83.5	138.9	173.3	135.3
Cincinnati									
January	152.6	182.4	171.8	-	115.2	90.8	138.4	171.4	137.4
February	157.2	182.8	174.7	-	115.2	90.8	138.4	175.6	137.2
March	157.0	191.3	176.8	-	115.2	90.8	138.4	175.7	139.2
Cleveland									
January	156.1	189.1	177.7	-	122.2	104.9	139.0	166.8	137.1
February	155.9	186.9	181.1	-	122.2	104.9	139.0	168.0	137.2
March	159.2	195.1	182.3	-	122.3	104.9	139.0	171.5	138.0

TABLE 3 - (Continued) CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES

(Note: Some indexes for January 15 and February 15 revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
Denver									
January	151.4	185.0	170.8	-	102.5	77.3	132.1	195.6	134.0
February	152.2	185.7	177.6	-	98.9	68.5	133.9	198.5	134.1
March	154.8	191.4	181.3	-	98.9	68.5	133.9	199.9	134.7
Detroit									
January	153.0	176.5	175.4	-	121.8	84.7	149.9	180.6	147.7
February	153.1	175.1	178.0	-	121.6	84.3	149.9	183.0	148.3
March	156.5	183.0	181.9	-	121.8	84.6	150.0	185.6	149.1
Houston									
January	153.9	192.5	175.7	-	94.2	81.9	127.2	182.0	136.0
February	154.1	190.6	179.3	-	94.2	81.9	127.2	185.2	136.6
March	157.1	196.3	185.4	-	94.3	81.9	127.3	186.3	138.3
Indianapolis									
January	-	180.0	-	-	122.9	86.6	144.3	-	-
February	-	179.9	-	116.0	123.0	86.6	144.3	-	-
March	157.5	187.8	177.0	-	123.1	86.6	144.5	175.8	141.6
Jacksonville									
January	-	190.3	-	-	128.4	92.8	159.2	-	-
February	-	189.3	-	-	129.1	92.8	160.6	-	-
March	165.4	198.8	180.3	112.3	129.9	92.8	162.1	170.7	150.1
Kansas City									
January	147.7	175.4	164.7	110.1	121.2	91.2	148.4	167.2	136.6
February	148.7	176.6	169.0	-	121.2	91.2	148.5	167.6	136.8
March	150.8	182.3	170.7	-	121.2	91.2	148.5	168.7	137.0
Los Angeles									
January	155.3	194.3	172.5	111.7	94.5	89.3	119.3	176.2	136.2
February	155.9	194.1	174.9	-	94.5	89.3	119.3	179.9	136.9
March	156.9	195.5	178.5	-	94.5	89.3	119.3	180.4	137.2
Manchester									
January	-	183.6	-	-	128.6	93.7	146.1	-	-
February	-	177.5	-	-	128.6	93.7	146.0	-	-
March	158.1	186.8	174.9	-	128.7	93.7	146.2	186.3	133.5
Memphis									
January	-	200.2	-	-	113.8	77.0	134.2	-	-
February	-	198.6	-	115.6	113.8	77.0	134.2	-	-
March	158.8	205.1	185.7	-	113.8	77.0	134.2	157.6	130.1

TABLE 3 - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES

(Note: Some indexes for January 15 and February 15 revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
Milwaukee									
January	-	178.0	-	-	117.7	93.9	134.0	-	-
February	-	180.1	-	-	119.2	94.4	136.1	-	-
March	154.5	186.9	180.3	-	119.1	93.6	136.6	137.7	135.8
Minneapolis									
January	148.3	174.0	181.3	-	111.7	78.9	133.2	173.8	135.5
February	149.0	174.6	185.4	-	112.2	78.9	134.0	173.9	135.7
March	151.6	181.3	186.7	111.4	112.6	78.9	134.7	175.1	136.2
Mobile									
January	-	189.2	-	-	110.9	84.0	132.4	-	-
February	-	188.7	-	-	114.2	84.1	133.2	-	-
March	159.2	199.6	178.2	166.6	117.5	84.1	143.9	163.4	129.9
New Orleans									
January	-	199.7	-	-	102.8	75.1	132.7	-	-
February	-	199.1	-	107.2	102.6	75.1	132.7	-	-
March	164.5	204.3	138.5	-	102.9	75.1	132.8	174.6	139.2
New York									
January	154.6	183.5	193.6	103.5	117.1	94.4	152.0	176.2	140.7
February	154.2	182.1	195.2	-	117.0	94.4	151.7	176.7	140.3
March	157.4	189.5	198.1	-	117.1	94.5	151.9	177.6	140.5
Norfolk									
January	-	191.3	-	-	125.3	94.9	149.3	-	-
February	-	191.6	-	-	125.3	94.9	149.3	-	-
March	160.9	199.8	171.0	-	125.3	94.9	149.3	179.0	143.5
Philadelphia									
January	152.3	179.7	176.3	-	122.8	92.5	146.0	179.5	133.3
February	151.6	177.2	177.1	107.7	125.2	97.8	146.0	179.7	133.2
March	156.1	185.8	180.9	-	125.2	97.8	146.0	179.8	136.6
Pittsburgh									
January	156.0	185.2	205.0	-	120.1	103.2	149.0	180.7	135.0
February	156.5	185.6	207.9	-	120.1	103.3	149.0	180.8	135.3
March	159.2	192.0	211.2	-	120.1	103.3	149.0	182.2	135.5
Portland, Me.									
January	-	179.8	-	-	125.1	95.3	139.8	-	-
February	-	174.3	-	-	125.1	95.3	139.8	-	-
March	152.5	184.8	177.8	-	125.2	95.3	140.0	177.5	135.0

TABLE 3 - (Continued) CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES

(Note: Some indexes for January 15 and February 15 revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
Portland, Oreg.									
January	-	192.8	-	-	123.8	88.5	166.9	-	-
February	-	191.2	-	-	122.0	88.3	163.1	-	-
March	160.6	198.1	178.4	-	122.0	88.4	163.1	175.4	140.9
Richmond									
January	-	181.5	-	-	115.8	94.2	128.9	-	-
February	-	182.1	-	-	116.7	96.7	128.9	-	-
March	152.9	188.8	182.3	-	116.7	96.7	128.9	187.6	130.7
St. Louis									
January	151.1	187.4	172.7	-	114.3	97.2	129.4	155.3	131.2
February	151.8	188.4	175.8	-	114.5	97.2	129.4	155.1	131.5
March	155.8	198.9	177.7	-	114.4	97.2	129.5	155.2	132.1
San Francisco									
January	159.3	200.6	171.4	-	82.5	72.7	116.4	150.1	146.7
February	158.4	195.4	176.3	106.8	82.5	72.7	116.4	151.0	147.6
March	160.3	199.5	178.9	-	82.5	72.7	116.4	151.9	148.0
Savannah									
January	162.3	203.8	170.7	115.1	121.9	91.2	140.2	192.0	139.0
February	162.5	203.1	174.6	-	121.9	91.2	140.3	190.6	139.3
March	166.6	213.1	175.2	-	122.0	91.2	140.4	194.4	140.4
Scranton									
January	-	180.9	-	-	129.3	91.8	153.2	-	-
February	-	182.6	-	-	129.3	91.8	153.2	-	-
March	157.3	188.9	180.6	101.5	129.5	91.8	152.6	173.0	132.3
Seattle									
January	155.7	189.6	171.5	-	111.5	85.8	133.0	177.8	142.1
February	155.4	187.4	173.0	-	111.7	85.8	133.3	180.1	142.8
March	158.2	194.3	176.0	112.2	111.7	85.8	133.3	183.4	142.8
Washington									
January	152.1	183.7	201.1	-	119.7	94.4	136.6	183.0	139.8
February	151.5	181.3	200.2	100.7	120.5	94.4	137.8	185.8	140.1
March	154.7	190.3	201.3	-	120.5	94.4	137.9	187.2	140.5

* See general explanation of tables on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM FEBRUARY 15 TO MARCH 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Total	Elect. & Gas & Ice	Other Fuels & Ice	House furnishings	Miscellaneous
AVERAGE	2.0	3.9	1.5	0.1	0.1	0	0.1	0.2	0.6
Atlanta, Ga.	-	6.5	-	-	0	0	0.1	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	2.4	5.1	0.9	-	0.1	0	0.1	-0.7	0.2
Birmingham, Ala.	2.5	4.9	2.5	-	0	0	0	1.7	0.2
Boston, Mass.	2.0	4.2	-1.0	1/0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.6	0.5
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.9	3.7	1.8	-	0	0	0	1.3	0.7
Chicago, Ill.	2.2	4.1	2.4	-	0.3	0	0.4	0.6	0.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	2.5	4.6	1.1	-	0	0	0	0.1	1.5
Cleveland, Ohio	2.1	4.4	0.7	-	0.1	0	0	2.1	0.6
Denver, Colo.	1.7	3.1	2.1	-	0	0	0	0.7	0.4
Detroit, Mich.	2.2	4.5	2.2	-	0.2	0.4	0.1	1.4	0.5
Houston, Texas	1.9	3.0	3.4	-	0.1	0	0.5	0.6	1.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	4.4	-	-	0.1	0	0.1	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	5.0	-	2/-0.5	0.6	0	0.9	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	1.4	3.2	1.0	-	0	0	0	0.7	0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.6	0.7	2.1	-	0	0	0	0.3	0.2
Manchester, N. H.	-	5.2	-	-	0.1	0	0.1	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	3.3	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	3.8	-	-	-0.1	-0.8	0.4	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	1.7	3.8	0.7	1/0.4	0.4	0	0.5	0.7	0.4
Mobile, Ala.	-	5.8	-	2/1.0	2.9	0	4.1	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	2.6	-	-	0.1	0	0.1	-	-
New York, N. Y.	2.1	4.1	1.5	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.1
Norfolk, Va.	-	4.3	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	3.0	4.9	2.1	-	0	0	0	0.1	2.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.7	3.4	1.6	-	0	0	0	0.8	0.1
Portland, Maine	-	6.0	-	-	0.1	0	0.1	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	3.6	-	-	0	0.1	0	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	3.7	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	2.6	5.6	1.1	-	0.1	0	0.1	0.1	0.5
San Francisco, Calif.	1.2	2.1	1.5	-	0	0	0	0.6	0.3
Savannah, Ga.	2.5	4.9	0.3	-	0.1	0	0.1	2.0	0.8
Scranton, Pa.	-	3.5	-	2/-0.1	-0.3	0	-0.4	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	1.8	3.7	1.7	1/0.1	0	0	0	1.8	0
Washington, D. C.	2.1	5.0	0.8	-	0	0	0.1	0.8	0.3

*See General Explanation of Tables on Page 3.
1/ Change from August 1946.
2/ Change from Sept. 1946.

TABLE 4 A - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM DECEMBER 15, 1946 TO MARCH 15, 1947

Page 11
March 1947

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	2.0	1.9	4.4	-	1.8	0.2	3.0	2.9	1.5
Atlanta, Ga.	3.3	5.8	3.8	-	-0.6	-5.8	1.6	6.7	1.0
Baltimore, Md.	2.5	3.6	3.7	-	1.6	0	2.5	0.4	1.1
Birmingham, Ala.	2.2	2.3	5.5	-	5.1	0	7.4	3.5	0.4
Boston, Mass.	1.4	1.1	1.9	-	1.3	0.2	1.8	2.7	2.9
Buffalo, N. Y.	2.4	2.2	4.8	-	1.5	0	2.5	3.7	2.4
Chicago, Ill.	2.1	2.0	6.0	-	2.8	0	4.6	1.3	1.5
Cincinnati, Ohio	2.8	4.0	3.2	-	1.6	0	2.6	3.4	1.7
Cleveland, Ohio	1.9	1.9	4.4	-	1.9	0	3.2	1.2	1.5
Denver, Colo.	1.5	0.4	8.6	-	-3.4	-11.4	1.5	3.9	1.4
Detroit, Mich.	2.2	2.1	5.6	-	3.3	0.2	4.6	3.9	1.3
Houston, Texas	3.2	3.4	7.9	-	0.2	0.1	0.5	4.0	2.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	2.1	1.9	4.3	-	3.1	0	4.3	2.3	1.9
Jacksonville, Fla.	2.9	2.1	6.1	-	2.0	0	3.1	4.3	4.2
Kansas City, Mo.	2.6	3.9	5.0	-	2.5	0	4.0	2.1	0.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.6	0.2	6.1	-	2.2	-1.9	19.4	4.2	1.5
Manchester, N. H.	1.0	0.1	4.4	-	0.1	-2.8	1.0	2.3	1.4
Memphis, Tenn.	1.6	-0.4	7.5	-	1.5	0	2.0	5.2	2.1
Milwaukee, Wisc.	2.6	4.0	3.9	-	1.4	-0.1	2.2	2.3	1.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	1.3	0.6	4.4	-	1.7	0	2.4	3.1	0.8
Mobile, Ala.	3.6	4.5	5.4	-	9.6	0.2	14.1	4.7	0.2
New Orleans, La.	1.0	0.9	4.3	-	0.1	0	0.2	2.2	-0.6
New York, N. Y.	1.4	1.8	2.6	-	0.4	0.1	0.8	2.1	0.5
Norfolk, Va.	2.1	2.5	3.1	-	2.3	0	3.5	3.3	1.3
Philadelphia, Pa.	2.4	2.2	4.4	-	3.3	5.7	2.1	0.8	2.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	2.4	2.3	5.4	-	2.8	0.1	6.3	5.5	1.7
Portland, Maine	2.2	2.4	5.8	-	1.4	-0.3	1.9	1.5	1.4
Portland, Oreg.	1.8	1.1	6.6	-	-0.5	-0.2	-0.7	3.6	1.6
Richmond, Va.	2.4	1.2	5.0	-	3.2	2.7	3.5	7.9	2.4
St. Louis, Mo.	3.0	5.1	4.2	-	2.5	0	4.2	0.1	0.9
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.1	-2.5	5.5	-	0	0	0	1.9	1.1
Savannah, Ga.	2.7	3.5	3.2	-	1.7	0	2.3	3.2	2.5
Scranton, Pa.	2.1	2.0	6.5	-	-0.3	0	-0.4	4.5	1.0
Seattle, Wash.	0.6	-0.8	4.6	-	1.8	2.3	1.6	4.3	0.8
Washington, D. C.	1.8	2.3	2.0	-	2.4	0	3.5	3.8	0.9

*See General Explanation of Tables on Page 3.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - APRIL 15, 1947

April Consumers' Prices Slightly Lower than March All-Time High THE LIBRARY OF THE

Preliminary figures on the changes in consumers' prices between March 15 and April 15 were released on May 18. Final figures are now available.

JUN 1947

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Consumers' goods and services for moderate-income families were one-tenth of one percent lower in mid-April than in mid-March according to the final figures of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. This decrease compares with a 2 percent increase between February 15 and March 15, 1947. As of April 15, 1947 the Consumers' Price Index was 156.1 (1935-39 = 100).

Retail prices for foods dropped, while prices for all other major groups of living essentials advanced during the month. Food prices in large cities declined 0.8 percent; clothing prices rose 0.2 percent; fuel costs and prices of miscellaneous goods and services each increased 0.7 percent; housefurnishings prices rose slightly while rents remained unchanged. In mid-April the consumers' price index was 19 percent higher than a year ago and 58 percent above the August 1939 level.

On April 15, 1947 the retail food price index was 188.0 (1935-39 = 100). Food prices have more than doubled since August 1939, the month before the outbreak of war in Europe, and have increased nearly one-third during the past year.

The family food bill was below the record high of March 1947, but was still more than 3 percent above mid-February 1947. The previous peak in retail food prices was November 15, 1946; the April 15 prices are slightly above this peak. Food price movements during the March-April period varied considerably. Decreases were recorded for dairy products (down 4.6 percent) and meats (down 2.4 percent). Cereal and bakery products prices increased 3.6 percent while fats and oils rose 4.0 percent. All other food prices advanced fractionally. The decrease in dairy products prices reflected seasonally increased supplies. All meat prices declined, with pork products leading. Meat production was maintained at high levels and wholesale prices weakened considerably. Flour prices were up over 9 percent and together with advances in bread prices brought the cereals and bakery products group up 3.6 percent. Price increases for vegetable shortenings were the major cause of the increase in the fats and oils group.

Retail costs of clothing to moderate-income families rose slightly between March 15 and April 15. Prices were higher for men's clothing, particularly suits and topcoats, business shirts and cotton hosiery. Prices for women's dresses and cotton gloves also were up in several of the 21 cities surveyed. Shoes for all members of the family continued to rise, but at a slower rate than in recent months.

Shoe prices have now increased more than 20 percent since controls were eliminated. Work clothing prices declined in several cities as did nylon hose for women and rayon socks for men.

Housefurnishing prices increased 0.1 percent on the average between mid-March and mid-April. Decreases in some cities were reported for Axminster rugs, inexpensive quality living room suites, innerspring mattresses and table model radios. Increases were shown for washing machines, gas ranges, and refrigerators. The reported reasons for the decreases were reappearance of lower priced merchandise, lowered cost of available merchandise, sales and competitive markdowns, and store policy in line with the President's program.

The increase of 0.7 percent in the index for miscellaneous goods and services was slightly larger than the mid-February to mid-March rise. This increase was led by a rise in the prices of gasoline, motor oil, and soaps in a large number of cities.

Fuel, electricity and ice costs also rose 0.7 percent from mid-March to mid-April reflecting increases in fuel oil prices in three cities and scattered price increases for bituminous coal. Anthracite coal prices showed declines because of reintroduction of seasonal discounts.

Information on changes in residential rents was obtained from a small group of dwellings in 6 cities in April. On the basis of this information, it was estimated that the rent index for all large cities combined remained unchanged at 109.0 (1935-39 = 100) on April 15, 1947.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose income averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, in Tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1.

Wage Base Date. January 1, 1941 is the base date for determining allowable "cost of living" wage increases under the "Little Steel" formula and under the wage-price policy of February 1946. January 1, 1941 indexes in Tables 1 and 2 have been estimated by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing period.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of foods in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Apr. 15 1947	Mar. 15 1947	Apr. 15 1946	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe
Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0						
ALL ITEMS	156.1	156.3	131.1	129.3	100.8	98.6
All foods	188.0	189.5	141.7	140.9	97.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	153.4	148.1	113.3	109.1	94.8	93.4
Meats	202.6	207.6	132.8	131.8	99.2	95.7
Dairy products	178.9	187.5	137.4	133.4	106.2	93.1
Eggs	176.3	174.7	137.7	171.4	104.6	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	200.4	199.6	185.9	183.5	91.8	92.4
Beverages	189.5	186.9	123.1	124.7	90.6	94.9
Fats & oils	227.8	219.1	126.1	124.0	80.2	84.5
Sugar & sweets	179.3	178.6	135.3	126.6	95.0	95.0
Clothing	184.6	184.3	154.5	146.4	101.2	100.3
Rent	109.0	109.0	--	--	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	118.4	117.6	110.4	111.4	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.5	92.2	92.6	95.2	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	143.7	142.5	127.8	127.2	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	182.4	182.3	152.0	146.0	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	139.1	138.2	126.7	124.5	101.8	100.4
Percent Changes to April 15, 1947						
ALL ITEMS	-	-0.1	19.1	20.7	54.9	53.3
All foods	-	-0.8	32.7	33.4	92.6	101.1
Cereals & bakery products	-	3.6	35.4	40.6	61.8	64.2
Meats	-	-2.4	52.6	53.7	104.2	111.7
Dairy products	-	-4.3	30.2	34.1	68.5	92.2
Eggs	-	0.9	28.0	2.9	68.5	94.4
Fruits & vegetables	-	0.4	7.8	9.2	118.3	116.9
Beverages	-	1.4	51.5	52.0	109.2	99.7
Fats & oils	-	4.0	80.7	83.7	184.0	169.6
Sugar & sweets	-	0.4	32.5	41.6	88.7	87.6
Clothing	-	0.2	19.5	26.1	82.4	84.0
Rent	-	0	-	-	3.8	4.5
Fuel, electricity & ice	-	0.7	7.2	6.3	17.5	21.4
Gas & electricity	-	0.3	- 0.1	- 2.8	- 5.1	- 6.6
Other fuels & ice	-	0.8	12.4	13.0	38.2	49.2
Housefurnishings	-	0.1	20.0	24.9	82.0	81.3
Miscellaneous	-	0.7	9.8	11.7	36.6	38.5

*See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
APRIL INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO APRIL 15, 1947
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Index 1934-39 = 100.0	Percent change to April 15, 1947 from				
	Apr. 15, 1947	Mar. 15 1947	Apr. 15 1946	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	156.1	-0.1	19.1	20.7	54.9	58.3
Baltimore, Md.	159.8	0.1	19.8	20.5	58.7	61.9
Birmingham, Ala.	161.4	-0.4	20.8	20.5	58.9	63.9
Boston, Mass.	149.3	-0.7	17.9	18.8	50.7	53.8
Buffalo, N. Y.	155.4	0.1	18.4	20.1	52.5	57.8
Chicago, Ill.	155.6	-0.4	19.8	21.7	53.8	57.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	157.0	0	20.6	21.4	57.6	61.4
Cleveland, Ohio	156.2	0	20.0	20.5	56.1	59.2
Denver, Colo.	155.4	0.5	20.2	21.8	55.6	57.8
Detroit, Mich.	156.5	0	17.1	19.3	55.0	58.9
Houston, Texas	158.3	1.0	23.0	24.5	55.5	57.5
Kansas City	151.0	0.1	17.5	18.3	53.5	55.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	157.4	0.5	18.0	20.2	53.6	56.6
Minneapolis, Minn.	151.3	-0.2	18.6	21.1	48.6	51.8
New York, N. Y.	156.6	-0.5	17.2	20.5	55.0	58.2
Philadelphia, Pa.	154.3	-0.8	18.9	20.6	56.0	58.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	159.0	-0.1	20.6	22.1	57.1	61.6
St. Louis, Mo.	155.0	-0.5	20.0	21.6	53.5	58.0
San Francisco, Calif.	161.4	0.7	20.4	21.8	58.5	62.5
Savannah, Ga.	160.1	-0.3	19.3	20.1	63.8	67.3
Seattle, Wash.	159.0	0.5	18.1	19.6	55.7	58.5
Washington, D. C.	154.8	0.1	17.5	20.1	55.0	57.0

*See General Explanation of Tables on page 4.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, APRIL 15, 1947

(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	156.1	188.0	184.6	109.0	118.4	92.5	143.7	182.4	139.1
Atlanta, Ga.	-	194.6	-	-	128.5	78.3	174.6	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	159.8	197.7	185.5	-	127.2	112.3	139.3	184.1	137.8
Birmingham, Ala.	161.4	198.8	180.7	124.8	120.5	79.6	151.2	171.0	136.1
Boston, Mass.	149.3	176.3	172.1	-	130.0	105.4	143.3	174.9	137.0
Buffalo, N. Y.	155.4	179.2	188.0	-	119.5	94.9	141.4	188.5	144.4
Chicago, Ill.	155.6	188.6	181.0	-	111.4	83.5	140.3	174.2	136.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	157.0	188.9	181.1	-	116.2	90.8	140.4	178.5	140.0
Cleveland, Ohio	159.2	195.0	182.7	115.9	122.3	104.9	139.0	169.7	138.8
Denver, Colo.	155.6	192.4	180.4	-	98.9	68.5	133.9	200.1	136.5
Detroit, Mich.	156.5	182.7	181.4	-	121.6	84.1	150.0	185.8	149.9
Houston, Texas	158.6	199.2	188.0	110.7	94.3	81.9	127.8	186.6	139.6
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	187.9	-	-	123.1	86.6	144.5	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	199.7	-	-	129.9	92.8	162.1	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	151.0	182.7	170.2	-	121.2	91.2	148.5	169.1	137.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	157.4	195.7	179.2	-	94.5	89.3	119.3	181.3	138.2
Manchester, N. H.	-	184.0	-	-	132.7	94.5	151.8	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	204.6	-	-	113.8	77.0	134.2	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	185.4	-	-	119.0	93.3	136.6	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	151.3	179.6	186.8	-	112.7	78.9	134.8	176.1	136.6
Mobile, Ala.	-	201.6	-	-	117.5	84.0	143.9	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	204.0	-	-	102.9	75.1	132.8	-	-
New York, N. Y.	156.6	187.3	198.4	-	117.3	94.5	152.5	175.8	140.9
Norfolk, Va.	-	200.5	-	-	125.3	94.9	149.3	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	154.8	181.9	181.0	-	125.2	97.8	146.0	180.0	137.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	159.0	189.9	210.6	108.5	120.7	103.2	150.7	182.9	136.8
Portland, Maine	-	181.4	-	106.1	128.4	95.5	144.7	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	201.4	-	113.9	122.0	88.4	163.0	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	188.3	-	-	116.7	96.7	128.9	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	155.0	195.2	177.8	-	118.0	97.2	136.4	155.5	132.9
San Francisco, Calif.	161.4	201.7	180.0	-	82.5	72.7	116.4	151.8	148.6
Savannah, Ga.	166.1	208.9	174.5	-	128.0	91.2	149.7	193.9	143.0
Scranton, Pa.	-	188.0	-	-	128.1	91.8	150.3	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	159.0	196.4	176.3	-	112.1	85.8	134.0	183.4	143.0
Washington, D. C.	154.8	189.4	202.8	-	121.0	94.4	138.7	187.9	141.4

*See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

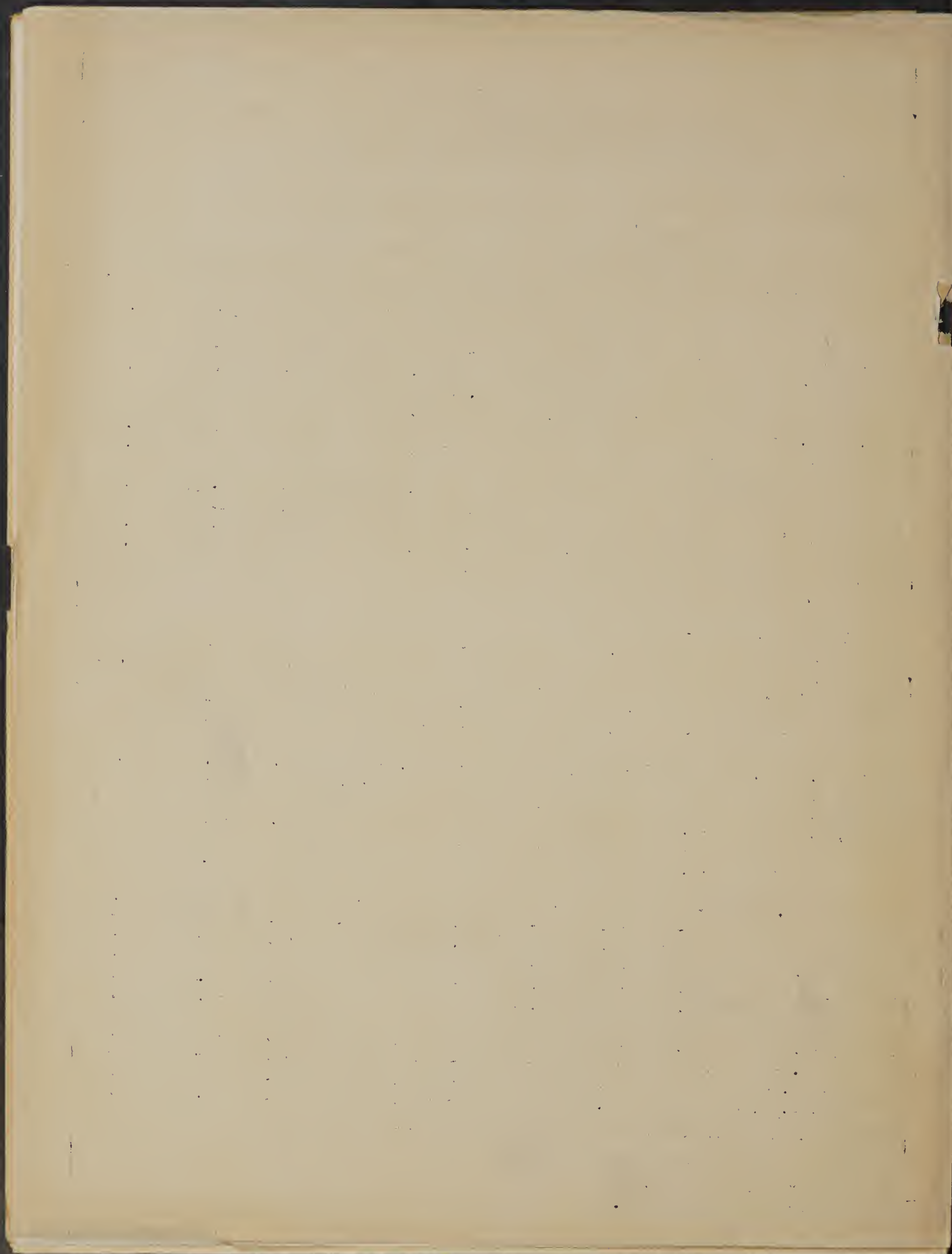
TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM MARCH 15 TO APRIL 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Elect-ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	-0.1	-0.8	0.2	0	0.7	0.3	0.8	0.1	0.7
Atlanta, Ga.	-	-2.5	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	0.1	-0.8	-0.1	-	6.0	16.4	0.3	0.7	0.8
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.4	-2.0	0.7	1/ 1.8	0	0	0	-0.8	1.1
Boston, Mass.	-0.7	-2.1	-0.3	-	2.4	0.8	2.9	0.7	0.6
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.1	-0.3	0.4	-	0	0	0	-0.7	0.7
Chicago, Ill.	-0.4	-1.2	-0.8	-	0.6	0	1.0	0.5	1.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	0	-1.3	2.5	-	0.9	0	1.4	1.6	0.6
Cleveland, Ohio	0	-0.1	0.2	1/-0.2	0	0	0	-1.0	0.6
Denver, Colo.	0.5	0.5	-0.5	-	0	0	0	0.1	1.3
Detroit, Mich.	0	-0.2	-0.3	-	-0.2	-0.6	0	0.1	0.5
Houston, Texas	1.0	1.5	1.4	1/-0.5	0	0	0	0.2	0.9
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	0.1	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	0.5	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	0.1	0.2	-0.3	-	0	0	0	0.2	0.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.3	0.1	0.4	-	0	0	0	0.5	0.7
Manchester, N. H.	-	-1.5	-	-	3.1	0.9	3.8	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	-0.2	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	-0.8	-	-	-0.1	-0.3	0	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	-0.2	-0.9	0.1	-	0.1	0	0.1	0.6	0.3
Mobile, Ala.	-	1.0	-	-	0	-0.1	0	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	-0.1	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
New York, N. Y.	-0.5	-1.2	0.2	-	0.2	0	0.4	-1.0	0.3
Norfolk, Va.	-	0.4	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.8	-2.1	0.1	-	0	0	0	0.1	0.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.1	-1.1	-0.3	2/ 0.8	0.5	-0.1	1.1	0.4	1.0
Portland, Maine	-	-1.8	-	2/-0.2	2.6	0.2	3.4	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	1.7	-	2/-0.3	0	0	-0.1	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	-0.3	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.5	-1.9	0.1	-	3.1	0	5.3	0.2	0.6
San Francisco, Calif.	0.7	1.1	0.6	-	0	0	0	-0.1	0.4
Savannah, Ga.	-0.3	-2.0	-0.4	-	4.9	0	6.6	-0.3	1.9
Scranton, Pa.	-	-0.5	-	-	-1.1	0	-1.5	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	0.5	1.1	0.2	-	0.4	0	0.5	0	0.1
Washington, D. C.	0.1	-0.5	0.4	-	0.4	0	0.6	0.4	0.6

*See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

1/ Change from August 1946.

2/ Change from September 1946.



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Washington 25, D. C.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - MAY 15, 1947

Consumers' Prices Declined Slightly Between April 15 and May 15

The complete index showing the change between mid-April and mid-May for all large cities combined is given in this report. Preliminary figures were release on June 17.

Retail prices of consumers' goods and services were practically unchanged in large cities between mid-April and mid-May according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Prices for all major groups of items in the family budget, except rents, declined slightly, 0.2 percent. Food prices decreased 0.2 percent; residential rents were estimated to have risen 0.2 percent; all other living essentials declined 0.3 percent -- the first drop for this group of items since June 1942.

The consumers' price index for May 15, 1947 was 155.8 (1935-39 = 100) as compared with 156.3 in mid-March. In mid-May, workers' families in large cities were paying over 100 percent more for food than in August 1939, and 64 and 81 percent more for clothing and housefurnishings, respectively. Prices for miscellaneous goods and services in May 1947 were 38 percent above pre-war levels, residential rents were up 4.7 percent, and gas and electricity prices were 6.7 percent below August 1939 prices.

Retail food prices in large cities decreased slightly, 0.2 percent, between mid-May and mid-April. Prices for fats and oils dropped 12 percent as most items in this group went down and lard prices fell 26 percent. Dairy products prices decreased slightly more than 1/4 percent on the average, with cheese and butter declining 5 and 1/4 cents per pound, respectively. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices rose 4.4 percent as a group. Cabbage (up 44 percent), lettuce (up 29 percent), and onions (up 14 percent) rose more than usual at this season; green beans (down 27 percent) and spinach (down 11 percent) dropped more than they ordinarily do at this time of the year.

Clothing prices declined fractionally between April 15 and May 15. Slightly lower prices for men's work clothing, shorts, and undershirts, and women's hose and cotton dresses more than offset higher prices of shoes for all members of the family. The clothing price index on May 15, 1947 was 184.4 (1935-39 = 100), 18.4 percent higher than a year ago.

Lower prices for living room furniture, mattresses, rugs, radios, sheets, and brooms were major contributors to the decrease of 0.4 percent in the house-furnishing index between mid-April and mid-May, and more than offset slightly higher prices for refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, and washing machines.

Fuel, electricity and ice prices dropped 0.7 percent on the average between mid-April and mid-May. Gas and electricity costs declined 0.1 percent as the usual seasonal decrease in New York City gas rates was reflected in May bills. Retail prices for other fuels and ice decreased 1.0 percent with large seasonal drops in the price of anthracite in 10 cities more than offsetting higher prices for ice.

Miscellaneous goods and services prices declined 0.3 percent during the month. Lower prices were reported for laundry and toilet soaps in all cities. The price of motion picture admissions decreased in New York and Houston; cigarettes cost slightly less in May than in April in New York and Buffalo. Higher prices were, however, reported for streetcar and bus fares and newspapers in a few cities. Gasoline prices decreased in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Chicago but increased in other large cities.

It is estimated that residential rents increased slightly between mid-April and mid-May, and bring the rent index for all large cities combined to 109.2 (1935-39 = 100).

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose income averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, in Tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1.

Wage Base Date. January 1, 1941 is the base date for determining allowable "cost of living" wage increases under the "Little Steel" formula and under the wage-price policy of February 1946. January 1, 1941 indexes in Tables 1 and 2 have been estimated by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing period.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of food in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Page 4
May 15, 1947

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES FOR
LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	May 15, 1947	Apr. 15, 1947	May 15, 1946	Aug. 15, 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15, 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe
Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0						
ALL ITEMS	155.8	156.1	131.7	129.3	100.8	98.6
All foods	187.6	188.0	142.6	140.9	97.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	154.2	153.4	115.2	109.1	94.3	93.4
Meats	203.9	202.6	133.5	131.8	99.2	95.7
Dairy products	171.5	178.9	138.6	133.4	106.2	93.1
Eggs	178.9	176.3	140.3	171.4	104.6	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	207.0	200.4	185.7	183.5	91.8	92.4
Beverages	188.9	189.5	125.4	124.7	90.6	94.9
Fats & oils	200.5	227.8	120.1	124.0	80.2	84.5
Sugar & sweets	179.3	179.3	135.9	126.6	95.0	95.6
Clothing	184.4	184.6	155.7	146.4	101.2	100.3
Rent	109.2	109.0	--	--	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	117.6	118.4	110.3	111.4	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.4	92.5	92.2	95.2	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	142.2	143.7	127.8	127.2	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	181.6	182.4	153.7	146.0	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	138.7	139.1	127.2	124.5	101.8	100.4
Percent Changes to May 15, 1947						
ALL ITEMS	-	-0.2	18.3	20.5	54.6	53.0
All foods	-	-0.2	31.6	33.1	92.2	100.6
Cereal & bakery products	-	0.5	33.9	41.3	62.7	65.1
Meats	-	0.6	52.7	54.7	105.5	113.1
Dairy products	-	-4.1	23.7	28.6	61.5	84.2
Eggs	-	1.5	27.5	4.4	71.0	97.2
Fruits & vegetables	-	3.3	11.5	12.8	125.5	124.0
Beverages	-	-0.3	50.6	51.5	108.5	99.1
Fats & oils	-	-12.0	59.0	61.7	150.0	137.3
Sugar & sweets	-	0	31.9	41.6	88.7	37.6
Clothing	-	-0.1	18.4	26.0	82.2	83.8
Rent	-	0.2	-	-	4.0	4.7
Fuel, electricity & ice	-	-0.7	6.6	5.6	16.7	20.6
Gas & electricity	-	-0.1	0.2	- 2.9	- 5.2	- 6.7
Other fuels & ice	-	-1.0	11.3	11.8	36.7	47.7
Housefurnishings	-	-0.4	18.2	24.4	81.2	80.5
Miscellaneous	-	-0.3	9.0	11.4	36.2	38.1

*See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

May 15, 1947

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
MAY INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO MAY 15, 1947
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0	Percent change to May 15, 1947 from				
	May 15, 1947	Apr. 15, 1947	May 15, 1946	Aug. 15, 1945	Jan. 1, 1941	Aug. 15, 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	155.8	-0.2	18.3	20.5	54.6	58.0
Baltimore, Md.	159.5	-0.2	19.3	20.3	58.4	61.6
Birmingham, Ala.	160.1	-0.8	19.0	19.6	57.6	62.5
Boston, Mass.	148.5	-0.5	17.2	18.1	49.8	52.9
Buffalo, N. Y.	156.1	0.5	18.3	20.6	53.2	58.5
Chicago, Ill.	156.6	0.6	20.4	22.4	54.7	58.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	156.4	-0.4	19.4	21.0	57.0	60.7
Cleveland, Ohio	158.9	-0.2	18.6	20.3	55.8	58.9
Denver, Colo.	155.5	-0.1	19.5	21.8	55.5	57.7
Detroit, Mich.	156.5	0	16.4	19.3	55.0	58.9
Houston, Tex.	157.6	-0.6	22.6	23.7	54.5	56.5
Kansas City, Mo.	150.4	-0.4	16.6	17.9	52.8	52.5
Los Angeles, Calif.	157.6	0.1	17.5	20.3	53.8	56.8
Minneapolis, Minn.	151.2	-0.1	18.6	21.1	48.5	51.7
New York, N. Y.	155.3	-0.8	15.6	19.5	55.8	56.9
Philadelphia, Pa.	155.0	0.1	18.3	20.7	56.2	58.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	159.7	0.4	20.8	22.7	57.8	62.3
St. Louis, Mo.	154.5	-0.5	19.2	21.2	53.0	57.5
San Francisco, Calif.	160.7	-0.4	19.2	21.3	57.9	61.8
Savannah, Ga.	165.4	-0.4	18.8	19.6	63.1	66.6
Seattle, Wash.	158.3	-0.4	17.0	19.1	55.0	57.8
Washington, D. C.	154.5	-0.2	17.6	19.9	54.7	56.7

*See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, MAY 15, 1947

(Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	155.8	187.6	124.4	109.2	117.6	92.4	142.2	181.6	136.7
Atlanta, Ga.	-	190.3	-	108.2	128.5	78.3	174.6	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	159.5	198.5	183.0	-	124.6	112.4	134.5	182.8	137.4
Birmingham, Ala.	160.1	195.8	180.7	-	120.5	79.6	151.2	168.2	135.6
Boston, Mass.	148.5	175.6	171.2	-	127.5	105.5	139.4	174.3	136.3
Buffalo, N.Y.	156.1	182.5	186.8	115.4	117.8	94.9	130.2	189.0	143.9
Chicago, Ill.	156.6	190.6	182.9	116.4	111.8	83.5	141.1	172.8	136.9
Cincinnati, Ohio	156.4	187.9	180.6	-	116.2	90.8	140.4	177.5	139.2
Cleveland, Ohio	158.9	194.3	183.1	-	122.3	104.9	139.0	169.3	138.5
Denver, Colo.	155.5	191.9	181.1	110.6	99.5	68.5	135.1	200.4	136.6
Detroit, Mich.	156.5	182.7	181.4	-	122.2	83.8	151.4	186.7	149.7
Houston, Texas	157.6	197.1	187.8	-	94.3	81.9	127.8	183.1	139.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	185.1	-	-	123.1	86.6	144.5	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	196.0	-	-	129.9	92.8	162.1	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	150.4	183.7	170.1	-	121.2	91.2	148.5	170.4	137.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	157.6	190.7	178.9	-	94.5	89.3	119.7	179.1	138.5
Manchester, N. H.	-	185.1	-	-	131.5	94.6	149.3	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	201.6	-	-	113.8	77.0	134.2	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	186.8	-	-	121.0	93.3	140.0	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	151.2	179.0	186.6	-	114.5	78.9	137.7	175.8	136.7
Mobile, Ala.	-	197.0	-	-	117.5	84.1	145.9	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	201.1	-	-	102.9	75.1	132.8	-	-
New York, N. Y.	155.3	184.8	198.2	-	115.6	94.0	148.8	175.8	139.4
Norfolk, Va.	-	198.8	-	109.3	125.3	94.9	149.3	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	154.0	183.4	180.2	-	122.4	97.8	142.2	179.7	137.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	159.7	192.4	211.6	-	120.7	103.3	150.7	181.7	136.2
Portland, Me.	-	130.3	-	-	127.5	95.7	143.1	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	209.8	-	-	122.7	89.7	163.0	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	186.3	-	-	116.7	96.7	128.9	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	154.5	193.4	177.5	-	118.0	97.2	136.4	156.5	133.0
San Francisco, Calif.	160.7	199.9	179.6	-	82.5	72.7	116.4	155.2	148.4
Savannah, Ga.	165.4	208.2	173.8	-	128.0	91.2	149.7	190.6	142.2
Spartanburg, Pa.	-	189.2	-	-	125.7	91.8	148.0	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	153.3	193.9	176.4	-	112.1	85.8	134.1	184.2	143.3
Washington, D. C.	154.5	187.8	202.3	-	118.1	94.4	133.9	187.8	143.0

*See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

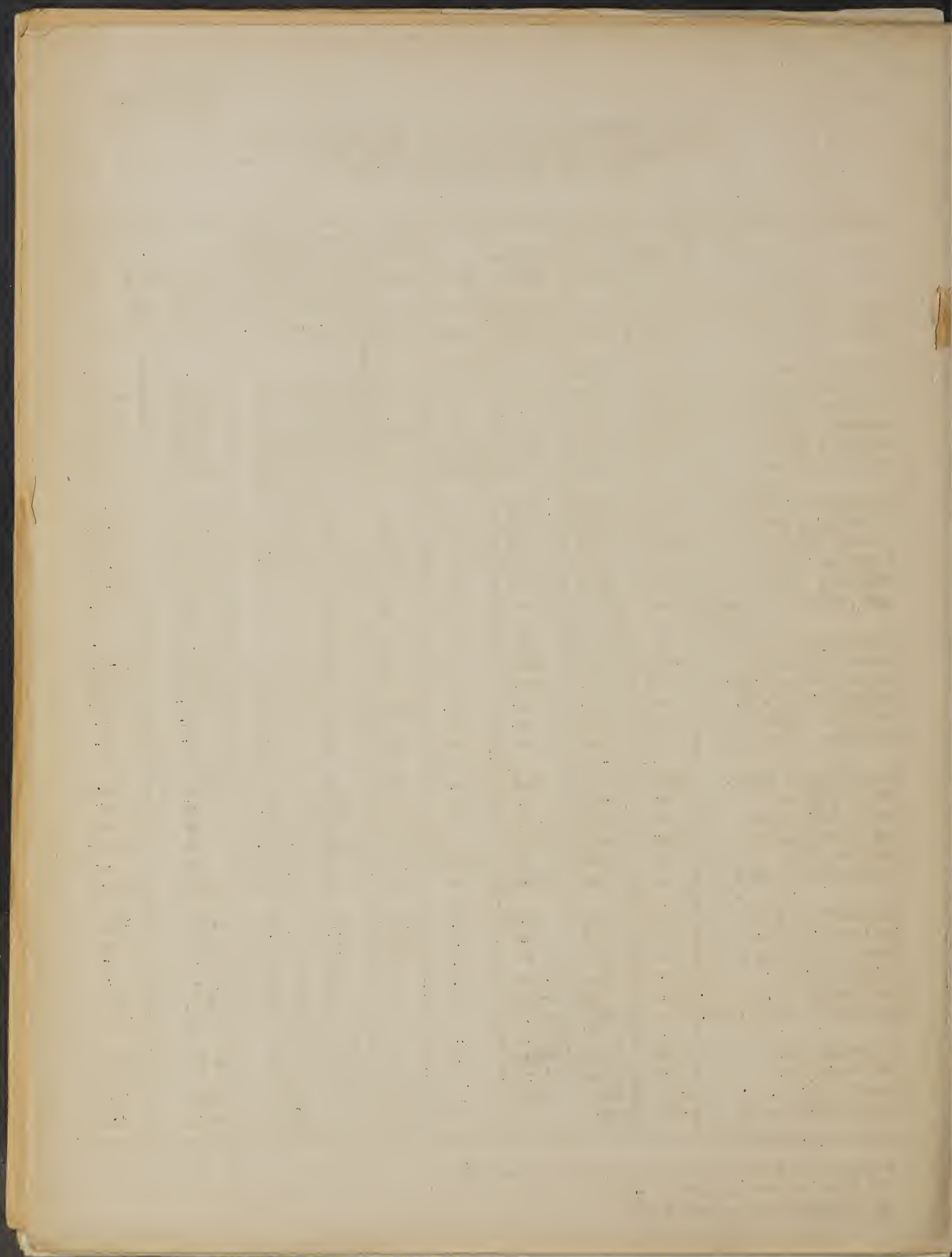
TABLE 1. - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM APRIL 15 TO MAY 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Cloth- ing	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel. laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	0.2	-0.7	-0.1	-1.0	-0.4	-0.3
Atlanta, Ga.	-	-2.2	-	1/0.5	0	0	0	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	-0.2	0.4	-1.3	-	-2.0	0.1	-3.4	-0.7	-0.3
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.3	-1.5	0	-	0	0	0	-1.6	-0.4
Boston, Mass.	-0.5	-0.4	-0.5	-	-1.9	0.1	-2.7	-0.3	-0.5
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.5	1.8	-0.6	2/0.2	-1.4	0	-2.3	0.3	-0.3
Chicago, Ill.	0.6	1.1	1.0	1/0.3	0.4	0	0.6	-0.8	0.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3	-	0	0	0	-0.6	-0.6
Cleveland, Ohio	-0.2	-0.4	0.2	-	0	0	0	-0.2	-0.2
Denver, Colo.	-0.1	-0.3	0.4	2/0	0.6	0	0.9	0.1	0.1
Detroit, Mich.	0	0	0	-	0.5	-0.4	0.9	0.5	-0.1
Houston, Texas	-0.6	-1.1	-0.1	-	0	0	0	-1.9	-0.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	-1.5	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	-1.9	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	-0.4	-1.1	-0.1	-	0	0	0	0.8	-0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.1	0.5	-0.2	-	0	0	0.3	-1.2	0.2
Manchester, N. H.	-	0.6	-	-	-0.9	0.1	-1.3	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	-1.5	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	0.6	-	-	1.7	0	2.5	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1	-	1.6	0	2.2	-0.2	0.1
Mobile, Ala.	-	-2.3	-	-	0	0.1	0	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	-1.4	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
New York, N. Y.	-0.8	-1.3	-0.1	-	-1.4	-0.5	-2.4	0	-1.1
Norfolk, Va.	-	-0.8	-	1/0.1	0	0	0	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.1	0.8	-0.4	-	-2.2	0	-3.3	-0.2	-0.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.4	1.3	0.2	-	0	0.1	0	-0.7	-0.4
Portland, Maine	-	-0.6	-	-	-0.7	0.2	-1.1	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	-0.3	-	-	0.6	1.5	0	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	-1.1	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.3	-0.9	-0.2	-	0	0	0	0.6	0.1
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.4	-0.9	-0.2	-	0	0	0	0.9	-0.1
Savannah, Ga.	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	-	0	0	0	-1.7	-0.6
Scranton, Pa.	-	0.6	-	-	-1.1	0	-1.5	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-0.4	-1.3	0.1	-	0	0	0.1	-0.1	0.2
Washington, D. C.	-0.2	-0.8	0	-	-2.4	0	-3.5	-0.1	1.1

*See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

1/ Change from September 1946.

2/ Change from August 1946.



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

Rothwell - 542

CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - JUNE 15, 1947

Consumers' Prices Rise to New Peak Between May 15 and June 15

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The complete index showing the change between mid-May and mid-June for all cities combined is given in this report. Preliminary figures were released on July 24, 1947.

Retail prices of living essentials purchased by moderate-income families in large cities rose 0.7 percent between mid-May and mid-June according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor. Prices advanced for all major groups of items in the family budget except rents and fuel, electricity and ice.

The consumers' price index for June 15, 1947 was 157.1 (1935-39 = 100), compared with the previous all-time peak of 156.3 reached in mid-March 1947. Retail prices of living essentials in mid-June were 18 percent higher than a year ago, and 59 percent above the August 1939 level.

Higher prices for meats and a 2 percent seasonal rise in egg prices were mainly responsible for the increase of 1.5 percent in the family food bill between May 15 and June 15. Meats, poultry and fish as a group advanced more than 6 percent during the month. On June 15, meats in all cities surveyed were retailing at higher average prices than in mid-May. The largest increases were for beef and veal, up 10 percent; lamb, 8 percent; and pork, 5 percent. These increases were partially offset by a drop of 6 percent in average prices of fats and oils and the sharpest monthly drop in coffee prices (down 4 percent) in more than 10 years. Fruit and vegetable prices declined 1 percent during the month with slightly lower prices for almost all items, fresh, canned, and dried. Fractional increases were reported in prices for cereals and bakery products and sugar and sweets. Dairy products as a group remained unchanged.

Apparel prices in large cities rose 0.4 percent between mid-May and mid-June. Increased prices were reported for men's summerweight suits, women's cotton street dresses, women's underwear, and cotton and rayon piece goods for home sewing. Prices of most footwear, especially the medium grade advanced during the month. Nylon and rayon hosiery prices dropped in practically all cities in June.

Housefurnishings costs advanced 0.4 percent during the month. Higher prices for most household durable goods, hard surface floor coverings and medium quality bedroom and dining room suites, more than offset lower prices for upholstered living room suites, sofa beds, turkish bath towels, and mattresses. Mechanical refrigerators and washing machines increased in price.

Prices of gas and electricity for domestic use declined 0.8 percent on the average, with reduced rates for gas in Kansas City and electricity in St. Louis. Higher prices for fuel oil and kerosene contributed to the offsetting rise in the average cost of other fuels and ice and fuel, electricity and ice as a group remained unchanged.

Prices of miscellaneous goods and services averaged 0.1 percent higher over the month. Costs of medical care continued to rise. Hospital rates advanced in 19 cities, and higher prices were reported for prescriptions and some of the commonly used household drugs. Gasoline and motor oil prices were up in most cities. Partially offsetting these increases were general reductions in prices of tires and tubes and further decreases in laundry and toilet soap prices. Railroad fares were raised in one section of the country.

It is estimated from the sample of cities surveyed in June, that residential rents are at the same level as in May.

FOR RELEASE
FRIDAY A.M. PAPERS
August 15, 1947

CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX

This statement on the Consumers' Price Index for June 1947 is the last one to be issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on the schedule which has prevailed since 1942. Through June 1947 the national index was based upon data from 34 large cities quarterly and 21 cities monthly on all commodities other than food and rents; information on food was collected monthly from 56 cities, and on rents originally quarterly and later after rent controls were firmly established, semi-annually in the 34 large cities covered by the index.

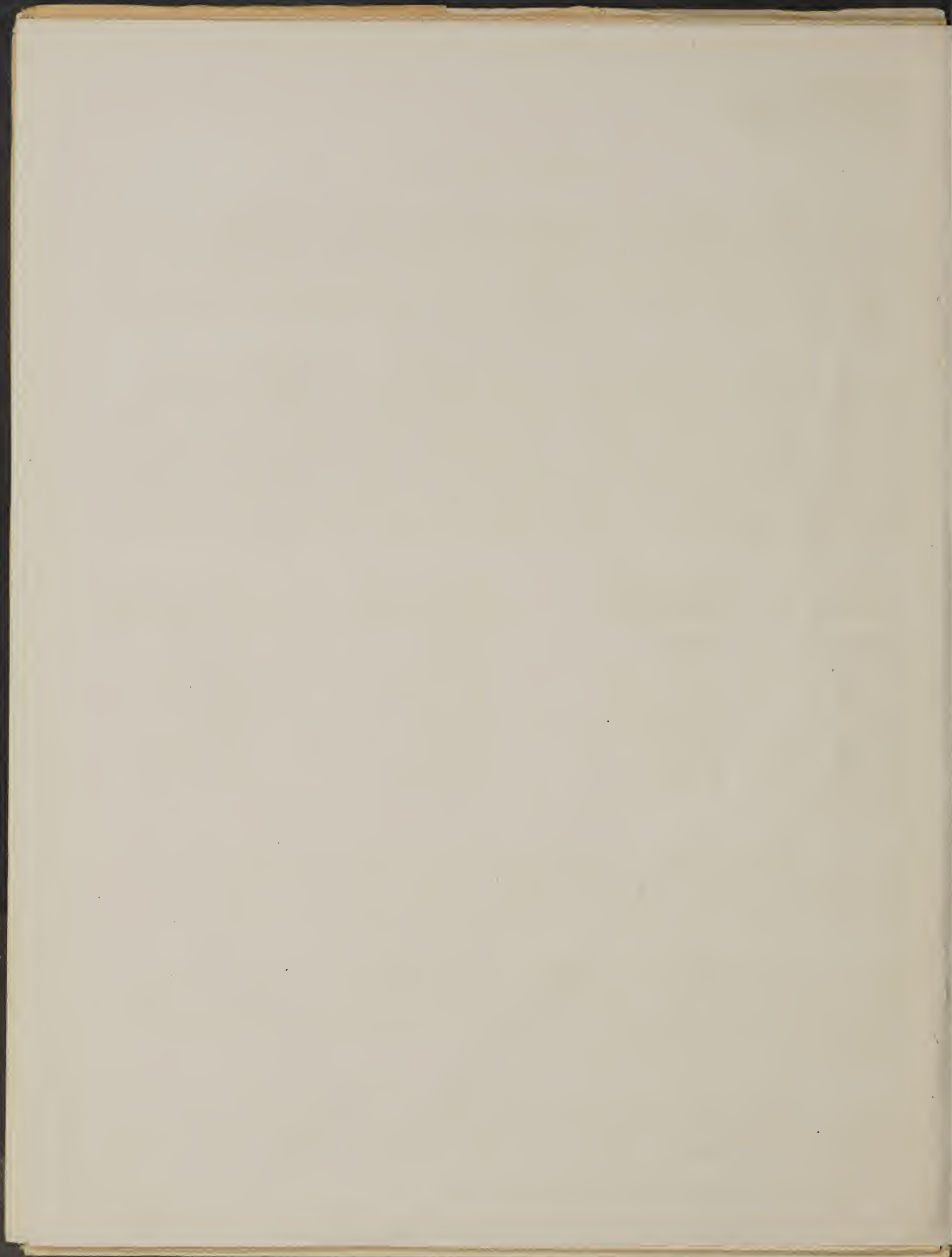
Because of budgetary limitations the Bureau of Labor Statistics will inaugurate, beginning in July 1947, a new schedule for this index. A national summary of changes in consumers prices will be issued each month at a considerably later date than at present. The monthly national index will be based upon collections of food prices in 56 cities and fuel prices in 34 cities and upon prices of other commodities and services (except rent) for 18 of the 34 large cities every month. Ten of these cities will be surveyed every month; the 8 other cities will change in each of the three months of the quarter. Information on rents will be collected at least quarterly in each of the 34 cities. The schedules for pricing commodities other than food and fuel in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Ore.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Extensive statistical tests have shown that this plan will permit the Bureau to compute a national average index for large cities with a high degree of reliability. It does, however, involve the sacrifice of information for many individual cities on the more frequent basis provided during the war period.

The new plan, which is based upon scientific criteria and careful testing, is closely related to the answers obtained from a questionnaire sent to index-users in April 1947. The analysis of over 3,000 returned questionnaires clearly indicated the necessity of maintaining a monthly national index. The ten cities to be surveyed every month ranked high in the list of specific cities for which consumers' price indexes were requested.

For a considerable period of time there will be a delay in the issuance of these indexes. The figures relating to July 15 will be available early in October. However, reports on retail food prices and the consumers' price indexes for individual cities will continue to be released as soon as they become available.



GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose income averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the cost of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, in Tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1.

Wage Base Date. January 1, 1941 is the base date for determining allowable "cost of living" wage increases under the "Little Steel" formula and under the wage-price policy of February 1946. January 1, 1941 indexes in Tables 1 and 2 have been estimated by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing period.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of food in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of clothing, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 34 large cities in March, June, September and December. In intervening months, prices are collected in 21 of the 34 cities for a shorter list of goods and services.

Apparel. Beginning with the consumers' price report for June 15, 1947, the Bureau's clothing indexes will be designated as "apparel" indexes to conform with general usage of the term in the trade and for uniformity in publications of the Bureau of Labor Statistics and other government agencies. There has been no change whatever in the composition of this group.

TABLE 1 CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

	June 15 1947	May 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
Group	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe
Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0						
ALL ITEMS	157.1	156.0	133.3	129.3	100.8	98.6
All Foods	190.5	187.6	145.6	140.9	97.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	154.6	154.2	122.1	109.1	94.8	93.4
Meat	216.9	203.9	134.0	131.8	99.2	95.7
Dairy products	171.5	171.5	147.8	133.4	106.2	93.1
Eggs	183.0	178.9	147.1	171.4	104.6	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	205.0	207.0	183.5	183.5	91.8	92.4
Beverages	181.3	188.9	125.4	124.7	90.6	94.9
Fats & oils	188.3	200.5	126.4	124.0	80.2	84.5
Sugar & sweets	179.7	179.3	136.2	126.6	95.0	95.6
Apparel*	185.7	185.0R	157.2	146.4	101.2	100.3
Rent	109.2	109.2	108.5	-	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	117.7	117.7R	110.5	111.4	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	91.7	92.4	92.1	95.2	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	143.0	142.4R	128.4	127.2	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	182.6	181.9R	156.1	146.0	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	139.1	139.0R	127.9	124.5	101.8	100.4
Percent Changes to June 1947						
ALL ITEMS	..	0.7	17.9	21.5	55.9	59.3
All Foods	-	1.5	30.8	35.2	95.2	103.7
Cereals & bakery products	-	0.3	26.6	41.7	63.1	65.5
Meat	-	6.4	61.9	64.6	118.6	126.6
Dairy products	-	0	16.0	28.6	61.5	84.2
Eggs	-	2.3	24.4	6.8	75.0	101.8
Fruits & vegetables	-	-1.0	11.7	11.7	123.3	121.9
Beverages	-	-4.0	44.6	45.4	100.1	91.0
Fats & oils	-	-6.1	49.0	51.9	134.8	122.8
Sugar & sweets	-	0.2	31.9	41.9	89.2	88.0
Apparel*	-	0.4	18.1	26.8	83.5	85.1
Rent	-	0	0.6	-	4.0	4.7
Fuel, electricity & ice	-	0	6.5	5.7	16.8	20.7
Gas & electricity	-	-0.8	-0.4	-3.7	-5.9	-7.4
Other fuels & ice	-	0.4	11.4	12.4	37.5	48.5
Housefurnishings	-	0.4	17.0	25.1	82.2	81.5
Miscellaneous	-	0.1	8.8	11.7	36.6	38.5

* See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
JUNE INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JUNE 15, 1947
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0	Percent changes to June 15, 1947 from				
	June 15, 1947	May 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	157.1	0.7	17.9	21.5	55.9	59.3
Atlanta, Ga.	159.1	-	18.9	21.2	59.4	62.3
Baltimore, Md.	160.5	0.7	18.4	21.0	59.4	62.6
Birmingham, Ala.	162.1	0.9	18.8	21.1	59.5	64.6
Boston, Mass.	150.3	1.1	17.5	19.6	51.7	54.8
Buffalo, N. Y.	157.7	1.0	18.9	21.9	54.8	60.1
Chicago, Ill.	158.3	1.0	20.9	23.8	56.4	60.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	158.5	1.1	19.9	22.6	59.1	62.9
Cleveland, Ohio	160.3	0.8	18.1	21.3	57.2	60.3
Denver, Colo.	155.9	0.1	18.4	22.1	55.9	58.1
Detroit, Mich.	158.7	1.2	16.3	21.0	57.1	61.1
Houston, Tex.	157.6	0	20.8	23.7	54.5	56.5
Indianapolis, Ind.	158.0	-	19.8	21.5	54.9	61.2
Jacksonville, Fla.	163.5	-	18.1	18.7	60.5	66.0
Kansas City, Mo.	149.5	-0.7	15.5	17.2	51.9	51.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	156.3	-0.8	14.8	19.3	52.5	55.5
Manchester, N. H.	160.4	-	19.1	22.3	60.1	64.0
Memphis, Tenn.	160.6	-	19.4	21.2	60.9	64.2
Milwaukee, Wis.	156.6	-	19.4	23.4	57.9	61.4
Minneapolis, Minn.	152.9	0.9	18.2	22.4	50.2	53.4
Mobile, Ala.	159.3	-	19.9	20.9	58.7	61.6
New Orleans, La.	164.6	-	19.3	22.3	61.8	65.1
New York, N. Y.	156.9	0.8	15.5	20.7	55.3	58.5
Norfolk, Va.	160.9	-	19.0	20.3	59.9	64.5
Philadelphia, Pa.	157.1	1.3	18.6	22.4	58.4	60.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	161.1	0.9	19.6	23.7	59.2	63.7
Portland, Maine	153.3	-	19.1	20.7	55.6	57.9
Portland, Oreg.	161.5	-	15.1	18.9	58.3	61.3
Richmond, Va.	152.6	-	19.0	21.0	53.2	55.7
St. Louis, Mo.	155.6	0.6	18.6	22.0	54.1	58.6
San Francisco, Calif.	159.3	-0.7	15.6	20.2	56.5	60.4
Savannah, Ga.	165.8	0.2	17.9	19.9	63.5	67.0
Scranton, Pa.	159.9	-	21.0	25.3	61.2	66.6
Seattle, Wash.	158.3	-0.1	15.5	19.1	55.0	57.8
Washington, D. C.	156.0	0.9	16.6	21.0	56.2	58.2

* See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES

(Note: Some indexes for April and May revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Apparel*	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE									
April	156.2	188.0	184.9	109.0	118.4	92.5	143.8	182.5	139.2
May	156.0	187.6	185.0	109.2	117.7	92.4	142.4	181.9	139.0
June	157.1	190.5	185.7	109.2	117.7	91.7	143.0	182.6	139.1
Atlanta									
April	-	194.6	-	-	128.5	78.3	174.6	-	-
May	-	190.3	-	108.2	128.5	78.3	174.6	-	-
June	159.1	193.0	180.4	-	128.5	78.3	174.7	185.4	145.5
Baltimore									
April	159.7	197.7	185.2	-	127.2	112.3	139.3	184.0	137.7
May	159.4	198.5	182.6	-	124.7	112.4	134.6	182.5	137.2
June	160.5	202.2	180.5	-	125.0	113.0	134.7	186.3	136.4
Birmingham									
April	161.7	198.8	180.3	124.8	120.5	79.6	151.2	171.4	137.4
May	160.7	195.8	180.4	-	120.5	79.6	151.2	169.1	137.8
June	162.1	197.3	184.4	-	120.5	79.6	151.2	171.7	138.7
Boston									
April	149.4	176.3	172.5	-	130.0	105.4	143.3	175.1	137.0
May	148.6	175.6	171.8	-	127.5	105.5	139.4	174.7	136.4
June	150.3	179.6	173.5	-	127.5	105.5	139.4	175.2	136.3
Buffalo									
April	155.3	179.2	188.1	-	119.5	94.9	141.5	188.0	144.4
May	156.2	182.5	187.6	115.4	117.8	94.9	138.2	188.9	144.0
June	157.7	187.0	186.5	-	118.1	94.9	138.7	190.1	144.0
Chicago									
April	155.7	188.6	181.0	-	111.3	83.5	140.2	174.5	137.0
May	156.8	190.6	183.0	116.4	111.7	83.5	141.0	173.4	137.4
June	158.3	193.9	184.8	-	112.4	83.5	142.4	175.8	137.6
Cincinnati									
April	157.2	188.9	181.7	-	116.2	90.8	140.4	178.8	140.3
May	156.8	187.9	181.9	-	116.2	90.8	140.4	178.2	140.0
June	158.5	191.1	185.5	106.3	116.2	90.8	140.4	179.3	140.3
Cleveland									
April	159.2	195.0	182.9	115.9	122.3	104.9	139.0	169.4	138.8
May	159.0	194.3	183.4	-	122.3	104.9	139.0	169.0	138.5
June	160.3	198.3	183.5	-	122.3	104.9	139.0	170.2	138.0

TABLE 3 - (Continued). CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES

(Note: Some indexes for April and May revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Apparel*	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
Denver									
April	155.8	192.4	181.5	-	98.9	68.5	133.9	201.1	136.7
May	155.8	191.9	182.3	110.6	99.5	68.5	135.1	202.4	136.9
June	155.9	191.9	183.7	-	99.5	68.5	135.1	200.9	136.7
Detroit									
April	156.7	182.7	182.1	-	121.6	84.1	150.0	186.7	150.0
May	156.8	182.7	181.9	-	122.2	83.8	151.4	188.4	150.1
June	158.7	188.5	182.1	115.4	122.3	83.7	151.6	190.3	149.8
Houston									
April	158.6	199.2	187.6	110.7	94.3	81.9	127.9	186.3	139.7
May	157.6	197.1	187.0	-	94.4	81.9	127.9	182.4	139.8
June	157.6	196.2	188.5	-	94.4	81.9	128.0	184.2	139.8
Indianapolis									
April	-	187.9	-	-	123.1	86.6	144.6	-	-
May	-	185.1	-	-	123.2	86.6	144.7	-	-
June	158.0	188.7	176.4	-	123.1	86.6	144.5	176.6	142.6
Jacksonville									
April	-	199.7	-	-	130.1	92.8	162.5	-	-
May	-	196.0	-	-	130.3	92.8	162.8	-	-
June	163.5	199.1	177.0	-	130.5	92.8	163.2	170.6	151.1
Kansas City									
April	151.0	182.7	170.1	-	121.3	91.2	148.6	169.0	137.6
May	150.5	180.7	170.0	-	121.3	91.2	148.7	170.2	137.9
June	149.5	180.0	169.0	-	109.4	66.3	148.8	171.4	138.3
Los Angeles									
April	157.4	195.7	179.5	-	94.5	89.3	119.3	181.3	138.2
May	157.6	196.7	179.5	-	94.5	89.3	119.3	179.1	138.2
June	156.3	193.8	177.1	-	94.5	89.3	119.3	176.1	138.3
Manchester									
April	-	184.0	-	-	132.7	94.5	151.8	-	-
May	-	185.1	-	-	131.5	94.6	149.9	-	-
June	160.4	190.3	176.1	108.6	131.5	94.6	150.0	187.4	135.6
Memphis									
April	-	204.6	-	-	114.2	77.0	134.8	-	-
May	-	201.6	-	-	114.6	77.0	135.4	-	-
June	160.6	205.1	195.1	-	116.2	77.0	137.9	159.0	131.7

TABLE 3 - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES

(Note: Some indexes for April and May revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Apparel*	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscol- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
Milwaukee									
April	-	185.4	-	-	119.0	93.3	136.6	-	-
May	-	186.6	-	-	121.0	93.3	140.0	-	-
June	156.6	190.8	184.3	109.2	122.6	98.3	139.3	189.0	135.7
Minneapolis									
April	151.4	179.6	187.0	-	112.7	78.9	134.8	176.9	137.1
May	151.5	179.0	187.0	-	114.5	78.9	137.7	177.3	137.5
June	152.9	182.6	188.1	-	114.9	78.9	138.5	178.9	137.5
Mobile									
April	-	201.6	-	-	117.7	84.0	144.3	-	-
May	-	197.0	-	-	117.9	84.1	144.7	-	-
June	159.3	196.9	182.1	-	118.2	84.1	145.1	170.3	131.5
New Orleans									
April	-	204.0	-	-	104.4	75.1	135.8	-	-
May	-	201.1	-	-	105.8	75.1	138.7	-	-
June	164.6	203.7	188.9	-	107.3	75.1	141.7	174.1	139.1
New York									
April	156.8	187.3	199.6	-	117.3	94.5	152.5	175.4	141.2
May	155.6	184.8	200.5	-	115.6	94.0	148.7	175.0	139.9
June	156.9	187.9	201.2	-	116.9	94.0	152.0	173.2	140.1
Norfolk									
April	-	200.5	-	-	125.3	94.9	149.3	-	-
May	-	198.8	-	109.3	125.3	94.9	149.3	-	-
June	160.9	198.0	175.1	-	125.3	94.9	149.3	182.9	143.3
Philadelphia									
April	154.9	181.9	181.1	-	125.2	97.8	146.0	180.2	137.9
May	155.1	183.4	180.2	-	122.4	97.8	141.2	180.2	137.4
June	157.1	187.1	182.3	-	122.7	97.8	141.7	180.2	138.9
Pittsburgh									
April	159.0	189.9	210.5	108.5	120.7	103.2	150.7	182.6	136.9
May	159.6	192.4	210.7	-	120.7	103.3	150.7	181.1	136.3
June	161.1	196.9	209.1	-	120.8	103.3	150.7	179.4	136.5
Portland, Me.									
April	-	181.4	-	106.1	128.3	95.5	144.5	-	-
May	-	180.2	-	-	127.4	95.7	143.1	-	-
June	153.3	185.3	178.6	-	127.5	96.1	143.1	178.9	136.2

TABLE 3 - (Continued) CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES

(Note: Some indexes for April and May revised)
(1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Apparel*	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Elect-ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
Portland, Oreg.									
April	-	201.4	-	113.9	122.1	88.6	163.0	-	-
May	-	200.8	-	-	122.8	89.9	163.0	-	-
June	161.5	199.7	179.9	-	122.8	89.9	163.0	176.2	141.4
Richmond									
April	-	188.3	-	-	117.1	96.7	129.5	-	-
May	-	186.3	-	-	117.4	96.7	130.1	-	-
June	152.6	185.8	183.8	104.6	117.8	96.7	130.6	190.2	131.6
St. Louis									
April	155.1	195.2	178.4	-	118.0	97.2	136.4	155.5	132.9
May	154.6	193.4	178.3	-	118.0	97.2	136.4	156.4	133.0
June	155.6	196.8	177.9	106.3	116.6	94.1	136.5	158.7	132.7
San Francisco									
April	161.3	201.7	179.5	-	82.5	72.7	116.9	151.7	148.6
May	160.5	199.9	178.6	-	82.6	72.7	117.6	153.1	148.5
June	159.3	196.9	176.6	-	82.7	72.7	118.2	155.1	148.1
Savannah									
April	166.2	208.9	174.8	-	128.1	91.2	150.0	193.9	143.1
May	165.5	208.2	174.0	-	128.2	91.2	150.0	190.4	142.6
June	165.8	209.4	172.6	-	128.2	91.2	150.1	189.2	142.7
Scranton									
April	-	188.0	-	-	128.1	91.8	150.3	-	-
May	-	189.2	-	-	126.7	91.8	148.0	-	-
June	159.9	194.9	190.4	-	126.6	91.8	147.9	177.5	133.9
Seattle									
April	159.1	196.4	177.1	-	112.1	85.8	134.0	183.6	143.0
May	158.5	193.9	178.0	-	112.1	85.8	134.1	183.6	143.4
June	158.3	193.3	178.2	-	112.4	86.8	133.8	184.8	143.1
Washington									
April	154.8	189.4	202.7	-	121.0	94.4	133.7	188.2	141.5
May	154.6	187.8	202.8	-	118.1	94.4	133.9	188.3	143.2
June	156.0	190.9	205.1	-	118.9	94.4	135.2	189.8	143.7

* See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM MAY 15 TO JUNE 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Apparel*	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	0.7	1.5	0.4	0	0	-0.8	0.4	0.4	0.1
Atlanta, Ga.	-	1.4	-	-	0	0	0.1	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	0.7	1.9	-1.2	-	0.2	0.5	0.1	2.1	-0.6
Birmingham, Ala.	0.9	0.3	2.2	-	0	0	0	1.5	0.7
Boston, Mass.	1.1	2.3	1.0	-	0	0	0	0.3	-0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.0	2.5	-0.6	-	0.3	0	-0.4	0.6	0
Chicago, Ill.	1.0	1.7	1.0	-	0.6	0	1.0	1.4	0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.1	1.7	2.0	1/-0.1	0	0	0	0.6	0.2
Cleveland, Ohio	0.8	2.1	0.1	-	0	0	0	0.7	-0.4
Denver, Colo.	0.1	0	0.8	-	0	0	0	-0.7	-0.1
Detroit, Mich.	1.2	3.2	0.1	1/-0.4	0.1	-0.1	0.1	1.0	-0.2
Houston, Texas	0	-0.5	0.8	-	0	0	0.1	1.0	0
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	1.9	-	-	-0.1	0	-0.1	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	1.6	-	-	0.2	0	0.2	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	-0.7	-0.4	-0.6	-	-9.8	27.3	0.1	0.7	0.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	-0.8	-1.5	-1.3	-	0	0	0	-1.7	0.1
Manchester, N. H.	-	2.8	-	2/0.1	0	0	0.1	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	1.7	-	-	1.4	0	1.8	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	2.3	-	2/0.2	1.3	5.4	-0.5	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.9	2.0	0.6	-	0.3	0	0.6	0.9	0
Mobile, Ala.	-	-0.1	-	-	0.3	0	0.3	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	1.3	-	-	1.4	0	2.2	-	-
New York, N. Y.	0.8	1.7	0.3	-	1.1	0	2.2	-1.0	0.1
Norfolk, Va.	-	-0.4	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.3	2.0	1.2	-	0.2	0	0.4	0	1.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.9	2.3	-0.8	-	0.1	0	0	-0.9	0.1
Portland, Maine	-	2.8	-	-	0.1	0.4	0	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	-0.5	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	-0.3	-	2/0.4	0.3	0	0.4	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	0.6	1.8	-0.2	1/0.1	-1.2	-3.2	0.1	1.5	-0.2
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.7	-1.5	-1.1	-	0.1	0	0.5	1.3	-0.3
Savannah, Ga.	0.2	0.6	-0.8	-	0	0	0.1	-0.6	0.1
Scranton, Pa.	-	3.0	-	-	-0.1	0	-0.1	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-0.1	-0.3	0.1	-	0.3	1.2	-0.2	0.7	-0.2
Washington, D. C.	0.9	1.7	1.1	-	0.7	0	1.0	0.8	0.3

* See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

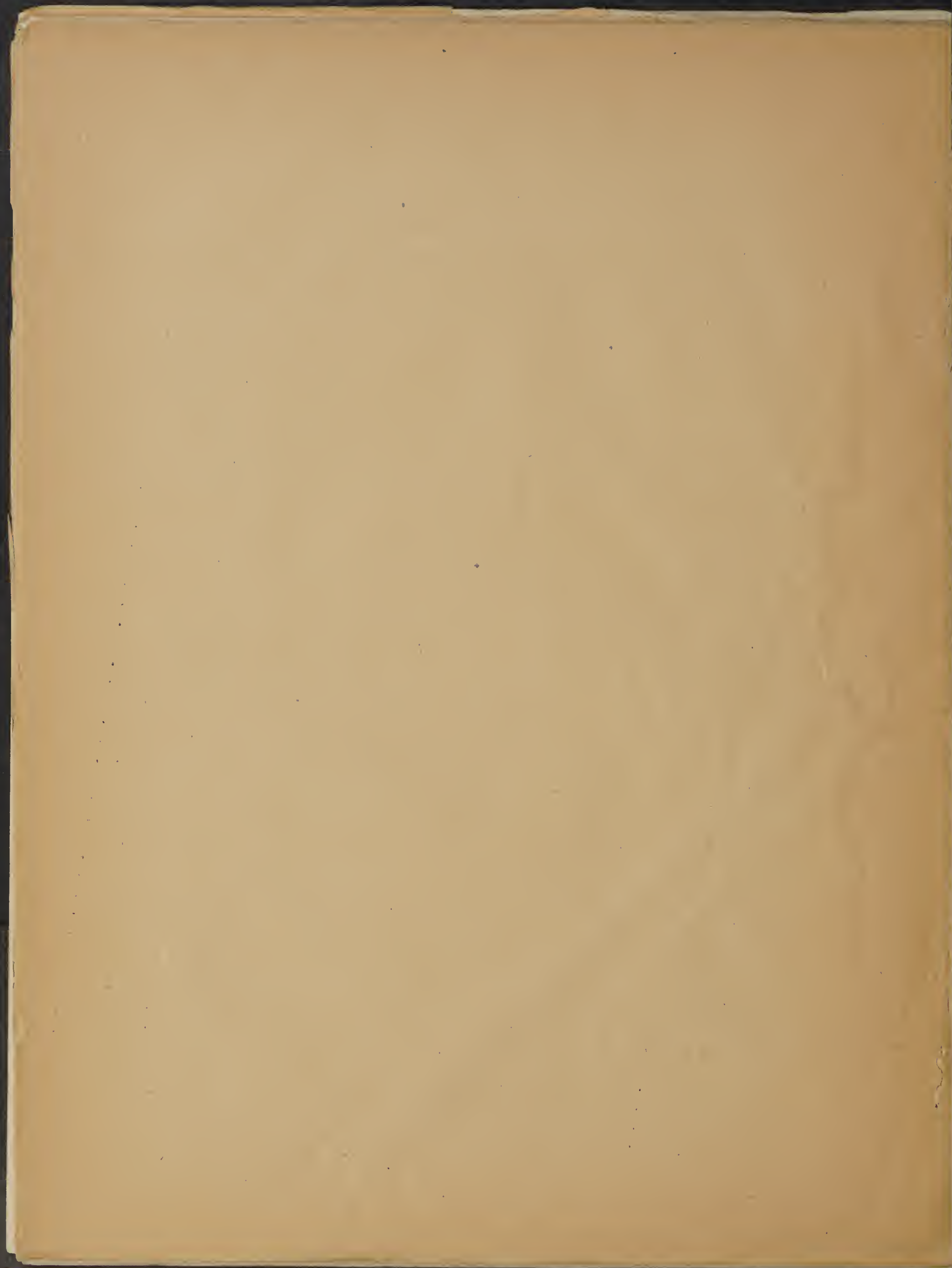
1/ Change from August 1946.

2/ Change from September 1946.

TABLE 4A - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM MARCH 15 TO JUNE 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Apparel*	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.1	-0.5	0.4	0.2	0.7
Atlanta, Ga.	-1.1	-3.3	0.8	-	0	0	0.1	-0.1	0.2
Baltimore, Md.	0.6	1.5	-2.8	-	4.2	17.1	-3.0	1.9	-0.2
Birmingham, Ala.	0.1	-2.8	2.7	-	0	0	0	-0.3	3.0
Boston, Mass.	0	-0.2	0.5	-	0.4	0.9	0.1	0.9	0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	1.5	4.1	-0.4	-	-1.2	0	-1.9	0.2	0.4
Chicago, Ill.	1.3	1.6	1.3	-	1.5	0	2.5	1.4	1.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.0	-0.1	5.0	-	0.9	0	1.4	2.0	0.8
Cleveland, Ohio	0.7	1.6	0.7	-	0	0	0	-0.8	0
Denver, Colo.	0.7	0.3	1.3	-	0.6	0	0.9	0.5	1.5
Detroit, Mich.	1.4	3.0	0.1	-	0.4	-1.1	1.1	2.5	0.5
Houston, Texas	0.3	-0.1	1.7	-	0.1	0	0.2	-1.1	1.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	0.3	0.5	-0.3	-	0	0	0	0.5	0.7
Jacksonville, Fla.	0.1	0.2	-1.8	-	0.5	0	0.7	-0.1	0.7
Kansas City, Mo.	-0.9	-1.3	-1.0	-	-9.7	-27.3	0.2	1.6	0.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	-0.4	-0.9	-0.8	-	0	0	0	-2.4	0.8
Manchester, N. H.	1.5	1.9	0.7	-	2.2	1.0	2.6	0.6	1.6
Memphis, Tenn.	1.1	0	5.1	-	2.1	0	2.8	0.9	1.2
Milwaukee, Wisc.	1.4	2.1	2.2	-	2.9	5.0	2.0	0.7	-0.1
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.9	0.7	0.7	-	2.0	0	2.8	2.2	1.0
Mobile, Ala.	0.1	-1.4	2.2	-	0.6	0	0.8	1.1	1.2
New Orleans, La.	0.1	-0.3	0.2	-	4.3	0	6.7	-0.3	-0.1
New York, N. Y.	-0.3	-0.8	1.6	-	-0.2	-0.5	0.1	-2.5	-0.3
Norfolk, Va.	0	-0.9	2.4	-	0	0	0	2.2	-0.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.6	0.7	0.8	-	-2.0	0	-2.9	0.2	1.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.2	2.6	-1.0	-	0.6	0	1.1	-1.5	0.7
Portland, Maine	0.5	0.3	0.4	-	1.8	0.8	2.2	0.8	0.9
Portland, Oreg.	0.6	0.8	0.8	-	0.7	1.7	-0.1	0.5	0.4
Richmond, Va.	-0.2	-1.6	0.8	-	0.9	0	1.3	1.4	0.7
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.1	-1.1	0.1	-	1.9	-3.2	5.4	2.3	0.5
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.6	-1.3	-1.3	-	0.2	0	1.5	2.1	0.1
Savannah, Ga.	-0.5	-1.7	-1.5	-	5.1	0	6.9	-2.7	1.6
Scranton, Pa.	1.7	3.2	1.0	-	-2.2	0	-3.1	-0.3	1.2
Seattle, Wash.	0.1	-0.5	1.2	-	0.6	1.2	0.4	0.8	0.2
Washington, D. C.	0.8	0.3	1.6	-	-1.3	0	-2.0	1.4	2.3

* See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.



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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - JULY 15, 1947

July Consumers' Price Index Continues Advance to New High

The complete index showing the change between mid-June and mid-July for all large cities combined is given in this report. Preliminary figures were released September 20.

Retail prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities rose 0.8 percent between mid-June and mid-July according to final figures released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. Prices of all major groups in the family budget, except apparel, advanced. The consumers' price index for July 15, at 158.4 percent of the 1935-39 average, was 12 percent higher than a year ago and almost 61 percent above the August 1939 level. The June to July increase in the total index was due principally to a rise of 1.4 percent in food prices; all other living essentials rose 0.4 percent. Between mid-March and mid-July prices of food rose 1.9 percent -- approximately equal to the usual seasonal increase over this 4-month period.

According to preliminary surveys made in 4 cities, food prices in general have continued their advance through September 15. It is estimated that between mid-July to mid-September the total food bill in Manchester, New York, Boston, and Cleveland rose by 4 to 6 percent.

Higher prices for eggs, dairy products and meats were the chief factors contributing to the average rise of 1.4 percent in food prices between June 15 and July 15. Egg prices jumped 11 percent on the average; butter was up over 8 percent; fresh milk 3 percent; cheese 2 percent. Meats averaged 1.5 percent higher, with beef cuts advancing 2 to 3½ percent. Prices of all fruits and vegetables combined decreased 1½ percent, reflecting seasonally lower prices for apples, bananas, cabbage and green beans. Price decreases for lard, shortening, salad oil and oleomargarine were the major cause of the decline of 3 percent in the fats and oil group.

Clothing prices dropped ½ percent on the average from mid-June to mid-July, bringing the index for the apparel group to 184.7 percent of the 1935-39 average. This is the first decline recorded for this group since the summer of 1942 following establishment of the General Maximum Price Regulation by the O.P.A. Price decreases in New York City, where many articles of apparel were available at lower prices than in June, were the principal contributors to the drop in the national average. Sales prices, competitive markdowns and return to lower price lines were among the reasons given for price decreases. Apparel prices decreased on the average in 10 of the 18 cities surveyed.

Housefurnishings prices increased about 1 percent between mid-June and mid-July. Scattered decreases in prices of upholstered living-room furniture, bedding, and cook stoves were more than offset by advances in most of the large cities in prices of radios and refrigerators.

Prices were higher for automobiles and gasoline and lower for tires, toilet and laundry soaps and sundries. As a result the index for miscellaneous goods increased by 0.3 percent over the month.

With the relaxation of rent controls under which tenants and landlords can agree to 15 percent rent increases, residential rents in selected large cities advanced 0.7 percent from mid-June to mid-July. This brings the rent index for all large cities combined to 110.0 (1935-39 = 100). Average rent increases from the beginning of the year to July ranged from 0.4 percent in Savannah to 2.6 percent in Kansas City and Philadelphia. About 4 percent of all tenants in these cities experienced rent increases in July.

Prices were higher for both anthracite and bituminous coal from mid-June to mid-July. Coal prices advanced in 22 cities, remained unchanged in 11 cities and dropped in one city of those surveyed. Gas and electricity remained unchanged on the average and held the increase in the total fuel and ice group to 1.5 percent over the month.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index" measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose income averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the price of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Data relate to the fifteenth of each month except those for January 1941, in Tables 1 and 2, which have been estimated for January 1.

Wage Base Date. January 1, 1941 is the base date for determining allowable "cost of living" wage increases under the "Little Steel" formula and under the wage-price policy of February 1946. January 1, 1941 indexes in Tables 1 and 2 have been estimated by assuming an even rate of change from December 15, 1940 to the next pricing period.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first four days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of food in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In March 1943 the number of cities included in the food index was increased from 51 to 56, and the number of foods from 54 to 61.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities at quarterly periods. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month.

Apparel. Beginning with the consumers' price report for June 15, 1947 the Bureau's clothing indexes was designated as "apparel" indexes to conform with general usage of the term in the trade and for uniformity in publications of the Bureau of Labor Statistics and other government agencies. There has been no change whatever in the composition of this group.

July 1947

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	July 15 1947	June 15 1947	July 15 1946	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe
<u>Indexes, 1935-39 = 100.0</u>						
ALL ITEMS	158.4	157.1	141.2	129.3	100.8	98.6
All Foods	193.1	190.5	165.7	140.9	97.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	155.0	154.6	126.2	109.1	94.8	93.4
Meat	220.2	216.9	173.7	131.8	99.2	95.7
Dairy products	178.8	171.5	179.1	133.4	106.2	93.1
Eggs	203.0	183.0	161.0	171.4	104.6	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	202.0	205.0	188.4	183.5	91.8	92.4
Beverages	180.8	181.3	126.0	124.7	90.6	94.9
Fats & oils	182.0	188.3	137.9	124.0	80.2	84.5
Sugar & sweets	179.7	179.7	138.5	126.6	95.0	95.6
Apparel	184.7	185.7	158.7	146.4	101.2	100.3
Rent	110.0	109.2	-	-	105.0	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	119.5	117.7	113.3	111.4	100.8	97.5
Gas & electricity	91.7	91.7	92.1	95.2	97.5	99.0
Other fuels & ice	146.6	143.0	133.8	127.2	104.0	96.3
Housefurnishings	184.3	182.6	157.9	146.0	100.2	100.6
Miscellaneous	139.5	139.1	128.2	124.5	101.8	100.4
<u>Percent Changes to July 15, 1947</u>						
ALL ITEMS	-	0.8	12.2	22.5	57.1	60.6
All Foods	-	1.4	16.5	37.0	97.8	106.5
Cereals & bakery products	-	0.3	22.8	42.1	63.5	66.0
Meat	-	1.5	26.8	67.1	122.0	130.1
Dairy products	-	4.3	-0.2	34.0	68.4	92.1
Eggs	-	10.9	26.1	18.4	94.1	123.8
Fruits & vegetables	-	-1.5	7.2	10.1	120.0	118.6
Beverages	-	-0.3	43.5	45.0	99.6	90.5
Fats & oils	-	-3.3	32.0	46.8	126.9	115.4
Sugar & sweets	-	0	29.7	41.9	89.2	88.0
Apparel	-	-0.5	16.4	26.2	82.5	84.1
Rent	-	0.7	-	-	4.8	5.5
Fuel, electricity & ice	-	1.5	5.5	7.3	18.6	22.6
Gas & electricity	-	0	-0.4	-3.7	-5.9	-7.4
Other fuels & ice	-	2.5	9.6	15.3	41.0	52.2
Housefurnishings	-	0.9	16.7	26.2	83.9	83.2
Miscellaneous	-	0.3	8.8	12.0	37.0	38.9

*-See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
JULY INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JULY 15, 1947
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0	Percent Changes to July 15, 1947 from				
	July 15 1947	June 15 1947	July 15 1946	Aug. 15 1945	Jan. 1 1941	Aug. 15 1939
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	V-J	Wage Base Date*	Month Before War in Europe
AVERAGE	158.4	0.8	12.2	22.5	57.1	60.6
Birmingham, Ala.	164.1	1.2	14.5	22.6	61.5	66.6
Boston, Mass.	151.9	1.1	10.4	20.8	53.3	56.4
Buffalo, N. Y.	159.1	0.9	14.0	23.0	56.1	61.5
Chicago, Ill.	160.1	1.1	13.5	25.2	58.2	62.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	160.4	1.2	14.4	24.1	61.0	64.9
Denver, Colo.	155.7	-0.1	12.7	21.9	55.7	57.9
Detroit, Mich.	160.2	0.9	11.1	22.1	58.6	62.6
Houston, Tex.	158.4	0.5	16.0	24.3	55.3	57.3
Indianapolis, Ind.	159.5	0.9	-	22.7	56.4	62.8
Kansas City, Mo.	150.5	0.7	10.3	17.9	52.9	52.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	157.2	0.6	10.5	20.0	53.4	56.4
Manchester, N. H.	162.1	1.1	-	23.6	61.8	65.7
New York, N. Y.	157.5	0.4	9.5	21.2	55.9	59.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	158.3	0.8	13.1	23.3	59.6	61.9
Pittsburgh, Pa.	162.6	0.9	13.9	24.9	60.7	65.2
Portland, Oreg.	162.1	0.4	-	19.4	58.9	61.9
Richmond, Va.	153.8	0.8	-	22.0	54.4	56.9
Savannah, Ga.	165.9	0.1	11.5	20.0	63.6	67.1

* See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, JULY 15, 1947

(Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Apparel*	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	158.4	193.1	184.7	110.0	119.5	91.7	146.6	184.3	139.5
Atlanta, Ga.	-	194.5	-	-	128.4	78.1	174.7	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	-	204.6	-	-	127.9	114.5	138.8	-	-
Birmingham, Ala.	164.1	201.8	183.6	-	128.8	79.6	165.6	173.1	138.5
Boston, Mass.	151.9	183.5	174.6	-	129.0	105.4	141.7	173.1	135.8
Buffalo, N. Y.	159.1	188.7	189.4	-	120.0	95.4	142.0	195.3	144.5
Chicago, Ill.	160.1	198.4	183.9	-	115.2	83.5	148.2	179.4	137.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	160.4	194.3	190.0	-	116.2	90.8	140.4	183.6	140.5
Cleveland, Ohio	-	195.7	-	-	122.3	104.9	139.0	-	-
Denver, Colo.	155.7	191.6	182.5	-	101.0	63.5	138.3	200.5	136.5
Detroit, Mich.	160.2	191.4	182.7	-	124.0	84.1	154.2	192.4	151.0
Houston, Texas	158.4	198.7	190.4	-	94.3	81.9	128.0	184.0	139.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	159.5	191.7	176.2	116.8	125.8	86.6	148.7	176.5	143.4
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	201.8	-	-	130.5	92.8	163.2	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	150.5	181.3	168.5	113.0	112.6	66.5	154.8	171.5	138.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	157.2	193.8	177.5	113.7	94.5	89.3	119.3	178.8	139.6
Manchester, N. H.	162.1	192.6	179.1	-	132.4	94.6	151.3	188.1	137.2
Memphis, Tenn.	-	210.1	-	-	122.4	77.0	147.6	-	-
Milwaukee, Tenn.	-	193.4	-	-	124.0	98.3	141.6	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	-	182.5	-	-	120.2	77.0	148.4	-	-
Mobile, Ala.	-	198.6	-	-	120.1	84.2	148.3	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	207.2	-	-	108.4	75.1	143.9	-	-
New York, N. Y.	157.5	191.7	191.6	104.1	117.5	94.1	153.6	174.4	140.6
Norfolk, Va.	-	199.5	-	-	125.3	94.9	149.3	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	158.3	188.9	181.8	110.5	124.3	97.8	144.5	182.2	138.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	162.6	199.9	207.8	-	127.0	103.4	167.7	183.6	136.6
Portland, Maine	-	188.4	-	-	127.5	96.2	143.1	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	162.1	202.7	178.4	-	120.4	89.9	157.8	175.2	141.4
Richmond, Va.	153.8	188.4	183.2	-	120.2	96.7	134.5	192.2	132.1
St. Louis, Mo.	-	200.9	-	-	122.3	94.1	147.3	-	-
San Francisco, Calif.	-	200.4	-	-	82.7	72.7	118.2	-	-
Savannah, Ga.	165.9	207.4	177.9	115.6	128.2	91.2	150.1	187.3	143.7
Seranton, Pa.	-	196.1	-	-	127.2	91.8	148.9	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-	197.1	-	-	112.4	86.8	133.8	-	-
Washington, D. C.	-	190.2	-	-	120.0	94.4	137.0	-	-

* See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM JUNE 15 TO JULY 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Apparel*	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elec- tricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	0.8	1.4	-0.5	0.7	1.5	0	2.5	0.9	0.3
Atlanta, Ga.	-	0.8	-	-	-0.1	-0.3	0	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	-	1.2	-	-	2.3	1.3	3.0	-	-
Birmingham, Ala.	1.2	2.3	-0.4	-	6.9	0	9.5	0.8	-0.1
Boston, Mass.	1.1	2.2	0.6	-	1.2	-0.1	1.6	-1.2	-0.4
Buffalo, N. Y.	0.9	0.9	1.6	-	1.6	0.5	2.4	2.7	0.3
Chicago, Ill.	1.1	2.3	-0.5	-	2.5	0	4.1	2.0	-0.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.2	1.7	2.4	-	0	0	0	2.4	0.1
Cleveland, Ohio	-	0.7	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Denver, Colo.	-0.1	-0.2	-0.7	-	1.5	0	2.4	-0.2	-0.1
Detroit, Mich.	0.9	1.5	0.3	-	1.4	0.5	1.7	1.1	0.8
Houston, Texas	0.5	1.3	1.0	-	-0.1	0	0	-0.1	-0.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	0.9	1.6	-0.1	<u>1/0.7</u>	2.2	0	2.9	-0.1	0.6
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	1.4	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	0.7	0.7	-0.3	<u>2/2.6</u>	2.9	0.3	4.0	0.1	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.6	0	0.2	<u>2/1.8</u>	0	0	0	1.5	0.9
Manchester	1.1	1.2	2.7	-	0.7	0	0.9	0.4	1.2
Memphis	-	2.4	-	-	5.3	0	7.0	-	-
Milwaukee	-	1.4	-	-	1.1	0	1.7	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	-	-0.1	-	-	4.6	-2.4	7.1	-	-
Mobile, Ala.	-	0.9	-	-	1.6	0.1	2.2	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	1.7	-	-	1.0	0	1.6	-	-
New York, N. Y.	0.4	2.0	-4.8	<u>2/0.6</u>	0.5	0.1	1.1	0.7	0.4
Norfolk, Va.	-	0.8	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.8	1.0	-0.3	<u>1/2.6</u>	1.3	0	2.0	1.1	-0.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.9	1.5	-0.6	-	5.1	0.1	11.3	2.3	0.1
Portland, Maine	-	1.7	-	-	0	0.1	0	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	0.4	1.5	-0.6	-	-2.0	0	-3.2	-0.6	0
Richmond, Va.	0.8	1.4	-0.3	-	2.0	0	3.0	1.1	0.4
St. Louis, Mo.	-	2.1	-	-	4.9	0	7.9	-	-
San Francisco, Calif.	-	1.8	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Savannah, Ga.	0.1	-1.0	3.1	<u>2/0.4</u>	0	0	0	-1.0	0.7
Seranton, Pa.	-	0.6	-	-	0.5	0	0.7	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-	2.0	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Washington, D. C.	-	-0.4	-	-	0.9	0	1.3	-	-

* See General Explanation of Tables on page 3.

1/ Change from February 1947.

2/ Change from January 1947.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - AUGUST 15, 1947

Consumers' Prices Advance to New All-Time High in August

The complete index showing changes between mid-July and mid-August for all large cities combined is given in this report. Preliminary figures were released October 17.

Prices paid for goods and services by moderate-income families in large cities rose 1.2 percent from mid-July to mid-August, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. Retail prices advanced for all major groups of family expenditures, except housefurnishings. The consumers' price index for August 15, at 160.3 percent of the 1935-39 average, establishes a new all-time high for the third consecutive month. The August index was 11.2 percent higher than a year ago, 20.3 percent above June 1946, and 62.6 percent over the August 1939 level.

The July to August rise of 1.8 percent in retail prices of foods was the chief contributor to the increase in the total index. The usual seasonal increase in the food index is about 0.3 percent. Foods now represent more than 43 percent of the total index. According to preliminary figures compiled by the Bureau, food prices advanced an additional 3 to 4 percent on the average between August and September, with the usual seasonal increase being about 1.3 percent.

Higher prices for all cuts of meats (up 3.7 percent on the average), dairy products (up 2.8 percent) and eggs (up 4.6 percent) were mainly responsible for the 1.7 percent rise between July and August in the total food group, and more than offset an average decrease of 1.9 percent for fats and oils and seasonal declines in fruits and vegetable prices (down 1.1 percent over the month).

Apparel prices averaged 0.6 percent higher in mid-July than in mid-August, with men's suits and women's and girls' cloth coats leading the price advance. Higher prices were also reported for women's wool dresses and suits and rayon dresses and slips. Retail prices of shoes, particularly children's, moved up as prices of incoming fall stocks reflected mounting costs of leather. Reduced prices were recorded for nylon hose and men's business shirts.

Retail prices of housefurnishings decreased fractionally on the average as lower prices of living room furniture, bedding, radios and curtains balanced rising prices of refrigerators, washing machines and stoves.

Mid-August prices of miscellaneous goods and services averaged 0.2 percent higher than in mid-July as prices of automobiles, gasoline and motor oil again advanced. Prices paid for services in barber and beauty shops, dental offices and dry cleaning establishments, as well as telephone rates, advanced over the month.

Retail prices of coal continued to move upward, and scattered increases in utility rates, advanced the total fuel and ice group by 3.6 percent from July to August.

Residential rents in large cities continued to advance under the modified rent controls of the Housing and Rent Act. About 12 percent of all tenants in 7 cities surveyed in August had their rent increased between July and August. Between July 15 and August 15 rents for family dwellings rose 1.1 percent on the average, bringing the rent index to 111.2 (1935-39 = 100.0). Average rent increases from early spring to August ranged from 0.4 percent in Washington, D. C. to 4.2 percent in Memphis and 5.4 percent in Birmingham.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index" measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services, weighted by quantities bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities in 1934-36. The items priced for the index constituted about 70 percent of the expenditures of city families whose income averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the price of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first three days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of food in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers, have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In August 1947 the number of foods included in the index was reduced from 61 to 50.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Ore.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. Information on rents is obtained at least quarterly in each city.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Aug. 15 1947	July 15 1947	June 15 1947	Aug. 15 1946	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0						
ALL ITEMS	160.3	158.4	157.1	144.1	133.3	98.6
All Foods	196.5	193.1	190.5	171.2	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	145.7	155.0	154.6	135.4	122.1	93.4
Meats, Poultry & Fish	228.4	220.2	216.9	186.6	134.0	95.7
Dairy products	183.8	178.8	171.5	180.1	147.3	93.1
Eggs	212.3	203.0	183.0	173.6	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	199.8	202.0	205.0	178.3	183.5	92.4
Beverages	181.7	180.8	181.3	126.6	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	178.5	182.0	188.3	180.3	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	179.8	179.7	179.7	140.3	136.2	95.6
Apparel	185.9	184.7	185.7	161.2	157.2	100.3
Rent	111.2	110.0	109.2	108.7	108.5	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	123.8	119.5	117.7	113.7	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.0	91.7	91.7	91.8	92.1	99.0
Other fuels & ice	154.8	146.6	143.0	135.0	128.4	96.3
Housefurnishings	134.2	134.3	132.6	160.0	156.1	100.6
Miscellaneous	139.8	139.5	139.1	129.3	127.9	100.4
Percent Changes to August 15, 1947						
ALL ITEMS	-	1.2	2.0	11.2	20.3	62.6
All Foods	-	1.8	3.1	14.8	35.0	110.2
Cereals & bakery products	-	0.5	0.7	15.0	27.5	66.7
Meats, Poultry & Fish	-	3.7	5.3	22.4	70.4	138.7
Dairy products	-	2.8	7.2	2.1	24.4	97.4
Eggs	-	4.6	16.0	22.3	44.3	134.1
Fruits & vegetables	-	-1.1	-2.5	12.1	8.9	116.2
Beverages	-	0.5	0.2	43.5	44.9	91.5
Fats & oils	-	-1.9	-5.2	-1.0	41.2	111.2
Sugar & sweets	-	0.1	0.1	28.2	32.0	88.1
Apparel	-	0.6	0.1	15.3	18.3	85.3
Rent	-	1.1	1.8	2.3	2.5	6.6
Fuel, electricity & ice	-	3.6	5.2	8.9	12.0	27.0
Gas & electricity	-	0.3	0.3	0.2	-0.1	-7.1
Other fuels & ice	-	5.6	8.3	14.7	20.6	60.7
Housefurnishings	-	-0.1	0.9	15.1	18.0	83.1
Miscellaneous	-	0.2	0.5	7.7	9.3	39.2

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
AUGUST INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO AUGUST 15, 1947
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0	Percent Changes to August 15, 1947 from				
	Aug. 15 1947	July 15 1947	June 15 1947	Aug. 15 1946	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	160.3	1.2	2.0	11.2	20.3	62.6
<u>Surveyed Monthly</u>						
Birmingham	166.6	1.5	2.8	12.1	22.1	69.1
Boston	154.5	1.7	2.8	10.4	20.8	59.1
Chicago	162.7	1.6	2.8	13.0	24.3	64.8
Cincinnati	162.2	1.1	2.3	13.0	22.7	66.7
Detroit	162.8	1.6	2.6	12.0	19.4	65.3
Houston	159.7	0.8	1.3	13.5	22.4	58.6
Los Angeles	157.8	0.4	1.0	9.1	15.9	57.0
New York	158.6	0.7	1.1	8.9	16.8	60.2
Philadelphia	159.5	0.8	1.5	11.0	20.4	63.1
Pittsburgh	164.9	1.4	2.4	13.0	22.4	67.6
<u>Surveyed Quarterly</u>						
Atlanta	162.2	-	1.9	-	21.2	65.5
Cleveland	163.0	-	1.7	10.9	20.1	63.0
Milwaukee	159.0	-	1.5	-	21.2	63.9
New Orleans	168.5	-	2.4	-	22.1	69.0
Norfolk	163.6	-	1.7	-	21.0	67.3
Scranton	162.8	-	1.8	-	23.1	69.6
Seattle	161.8	-	2.2	11.7	18.1	61.3
Washington	159.1	-	2.0	11.6	18.9	61.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, AUGUST 15, 1947

(Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Elect-ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	160.3	196.5	185.9	111.2	123.8	92.0	154.8	184.2	139.8
Atlanta, Ga.	162.2	198.9	184.1	-	136.9	78.3	190.7	186.2	146.1
Baltimore, Md.	-	206.9	-	-	132.7	115.5	146.7	-	-
Birmingham, Ala.	166.6	204.8	187.8	131.6	128.8	79.6	165.6	173.5	138.2
Boston, Mass.	154.5	187.9	178.8	-	133.5	106.3	148.1	173.3	136.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	-	192.4	-	-	124.9	95.4	151.1	-	-
Chicago, Ill.	162.7	203.1	186.3	-	118.7	83.5	155.3	176.8	138.9
Cincinnati, Ohio	162.2	198.3	187.2	-	125.6	90.8	158.8	181.2	141.4
Cleveland, Ohio	163.0	204.3	183.6	-	130.6	104.9	155.3	169.5	138.9
Denver, Colo.	-	195.8	-	-	106.2	68.5	149.2	-	-
Detroit, Mich.	162.8	195.5	184.5	-	134.1	84.1	172.1	193.8	152.4
Houston, Texas	159.7	200.8	192.2	-	94.3	81.9	128.0	185.5	140.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	195.5	-	-	135.7	86.6	164.5	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	205.0	-	-	133.6	94.1	167.7	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	-	183.5	-	-	115.2	66.7	159.5	-	-
Los Angeles, Cal.	157.8	195.4	178.4	-	94.5	89.3	119.3	176.7	140.0
Manchester, N. H.	-	196.8	-	-	137.5	94.6	158.9	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	213.5	-	120.5	122.8	77.0	148.1	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	159.0	196.8	183.3	-	131.8	98.4	154.8	185.5	135.1
Minneapolis, Minn.	-	187.4	-	-	121.6	77.0	150.8	-	-
Mobile, Ala.	-	200.8	-	-	122.8	84.3	153.0	-	-
New Orleans, La.	168.5	211.0	191.5	108.4	109.3	75.1	145.8	182.8	139.2
New York, N. Y.	158.6	194.3	190.8	-	120.5	95.4	159.2	174.9	140.6
Norfolk, Va.	163.6	203.2	178.7	-	130.7	94.9	158.8	182.8	143.4
Philadelphia, Pa.	159.5	191.7	181.8	-	127.8	97.8	150.7	182.1	133.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	164.9	202.0	212.2	112.2	127.0	103.3	167.7	189.3	136.6
Portland, Maine	-	191.0	-	-	133.1	96.6	151.1	-	-
Portland, Oreg.	-	205.0	-	-	121.6	91.3	158.8	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	194.3	-	-	126.6	96.7	144.8	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	-	205.0	-	-	124.5	94.1	151.5	-	-
San Francisco, Cal.	-	200.4	-	-	82.7	72.7	118.2	-	-
Savannah, Ga.	-	215.1	-	-	133.5	91.2	158.4	-	-
Scranton, Pa.	162.8	199.5	191.1	103.4	133.4	91.8	158.7	178.7	134.1
Seattle, Wash.	161.8	200.3	180.3	114.5	117.4	86.8	142.9	179.7	144.2
Washington, D. C.	159.1	197.1	208.3	101.1	124.5	94.4	144.6	193.9	144.8

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM JULY 15 TO AUGUST 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	1.2	1.8	0.6	1.1	3.6	0.3	5.6	-0.1	0.2
Atlanta, Ga.	a/1.9	2.3	a/2.1	-	6.6	0.3	9.2	a/0.4	a/0.4
Baltimore, Md.	-	1.1	-	-	3.8	0.9	5.7	-	-
Birmingham, Ala.	1.5	1.5	2.3	b/5.4	0	0	0	0.2	-0.2
Boston, Mass.	1.7	2.4	2.4	-	3.5	0.9	4.5	0.1	0.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	-	2.0	-	-	4.1	0	6.4	-	-
Chicago, Ill.	1.6	2.4	1.3	-	3.0	0	4.8	-1.4	1.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.1	2.1	-1.5	-	8.1	0	13.1	-1.3	0.6
Cleveland, Ohio	a/1.7	2.3	a/0.1	-	6.8	0	11.7	a/-0.4	a/0.7
Denver, Colo.	-	2.2	-	-	5.1	0	7.9	-	-
Detroit, Mich.	1.6	2.1	1.0	-	8.1	0	11.6	0.7	0.9
Houston, Texas	0.8	1.1	0.9	-	0	0	0	0.8	0.9
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	2.0	-	-	7.9	0	10.6	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	1.6	-	-	2.4	1.4	2.8	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	-	1.2	-	-	2.3	0.3	3.0	-	-
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.4	0.8	0.5	-	0	0	0	-1.2	0.3
Manchester, N. H.	-	2.2	-	-	3.9	0	5.0	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	1.6	-	c/4.2	0.3	0	0.3	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	a/1.5	1.8	a/-0.5	-	6.3	0.1	9.3	a/-1.9	a/-0.4
Minneapolis, Minn.	-	2.7	-	-	1.2	0	1.6	-	-
Mobile, Ala.	-	1.1	-	-	2.2	0.1	3.2	-	-
New Orleans, La.	a/2.4	1.8	a/1.4	c/1.1	0.8	0	1.3	a/5.0	a/0.1
New York, N. Y.	0.7	1.4	-0.4	-	2.6	1.4	3.6	0.3	0
Norfolk, Va.	a/1.7	1.9	a/2.1	-	4.3	0	6.4	a/-0.1	a/0.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.8	1.5	0	-	2.8	0	4.3	-0.1	-0.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.4	1.1	2.1	b/3.4	0	-0.1	0	3.1	0
Portland, Maine	-	1.4	-	-	4.4	0.4	5.6	-	-
Portland, Ore.	-	1.1	-	-	1.0	1.6	0.6	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	3.1	-	-	5.3	0	7.7	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	-	2.0	-	-	1.8	0	2.9	-	-
San Francisco, Calif.	-	0	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Savannah, Ga.	-	3.7	-	-	4.1	0	5.5	-	-
Scranton, Pa.	a/1.8	1.7	a/0.4	a/1.9	4.9	0	6.6	a/0.7	a/0.1
Seattle, Wash.	a/2.2	1.6	a/1.2	d/2.0	4.4	0	6.8	a/-2.8	a/0.8
Washington, D. C.	a/2.0	3.6	a/1.6	c/0.4	3.8	0	5.5	a/2.2	a/0.8

* See General Explanation on page 3.

a/ Change from June 15, 1947.

b/ Change from April 15, 1947.

c/ Change from February 15, 1947.

d/ Change from March 15, 1947.



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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - SEPTEMBER 15, 1947

DEC 3 1947

Consumers' Prices Continue to Advance from August to September

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

The complete index showing changes between mid-August and mid-September for all large cities combined is given in this report. Preliminary figures were released November 14.

Retail prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities rose 2.2 percent from mid-August to mid-September, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. The consumers' price index for September 1947 reached a record high of 163.8 percent of the 1935-39 base period; 12.3 percent higher than a year ago, 22.9 percent above June 1946, and 66.1 percent over the August 1939 level.

Prices of all major groups of items advanced; foods were up 3.6 percent, rents 2.2 percent, housefurnishings 1.8 percent, apparel 0.9 percent, fuels and ice 0.6 percent, and miscellaneous goods 0.7 percent. All items other than foods rose 1.2 percent on the average.

The 3.6 percent rise in food prices over the month (more than twice the usual seasonal increase at this time of year) brought the food index for September 1947 to 203.5 percent on the 1935-39 average; 39.8 percent higher than in June 1946 and 10 percent above the June 1920 peak following World War I. Meats advanced 5.3 percent, dairy products 6.2 percent, eggs 11.1 percent, beverages 2.9 percent, cereals and bakery products 1.3 percent, and sugar and sweets 0.7 percent. Fruits and vegetables moved down 0.8 percent, due chiefly to a decline of 5.1 percent for canned goods. Fats and oils decreased 1.1 percent as lower prices for oleomargarine and shortening more than offset a seasonal rise of 9 percent in the price of lard.

Higher prices for living room and bedroom furniture, bedding, dinnerware, refrigerators, washing machines and other electrical appliances advanced the housefurnishings index 1.8 percent from August to September to a level of 20 percent above June 1946. Scattered decreases were reported for radios.

Apparel prices in large cities averaged 0.9 percent higher in September than in August. Higher prices were reported for men's and women's woolen clothing and children's cotton and wool items. Prices were higher for rayon dresses and slips and cotton yard goods. Prices of shoes, especially children's, continued to advance in a majority of the cities. In the 18 cities surveyed in September, increases in the apparel group over the last 3 months ranged from 5 percent in Memphis to less than 1 percent in Mobile and Philadelphia, while apparel prices averaged 6 percent lower in New York. This divergent trend in New York City results mainly from extended sales, competitive markdowns and the return of lower priced apparel on store counters.

Residential rents in large cities continued to advance under the modified controls of the Housing and Rent Act. Between August 15 and September 15 rents for family dwellings rose 2.2 percent, bringing the rent index to 113.6 (1935-39 = 100).

Higher prices for both anthracite and bituminous coal and fuel oil continued to be reported in some cities; and scattered increases in gas and electric rates resulting from the increased cost of coal, advanced the total fuel electricity and ice group 0.6 percent over the month.

Mid-September prices of miscellaneous goods and services averaged 0.7 percent higher than in mid-August as prices of automobiles continued to advance. Higher prices were also reported for motor oil and household paper products, while toilet and laundry soaps decreased in most cities.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index" measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents, and services weighted by quantities bought in 1934-36 by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first three days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of food in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In August 1947 the number of foods included in the index was reduced from 61 to 50.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Ore.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. Information on rents is obtained at least quarterly in each city.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Sept. 15 1947	Aug. 15 1947	June 15 1947	Sept. 15 1946	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
<u>Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0</u>						
ALL ITEMS	163.8	160.3	157.1	145.9	133.3	98.6
All Foods	203.5	196.5	190.5	174.1	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	157.8	155.7	154.6	137.3	122.1	93.4
Meats, Poultry & Fish	240.6	228.4	216.9	188.5	134.0	95.7
Dairy products	195.2	183.8	171.5	186.6	147.8	93.1
Eggs	235.9	212.3	183.0	193.3	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	198.2	199.8	205.0	176.4	183.5	92.4
Beverages	187.0	181.7	181.3	162.0	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	176.6	178.5	188.3	151.4	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	181.1	179.8	179.7	141.5	136.2	95.6
Apparel	187.6	185.9	185.7	165.9	157.2	100.3
Rent	113.6	111.2	109.2	108.8	108.5	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	124.6	123.8	117.7	114.4	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.1	92.0	91.7	91.7	92.1	99.0
Other fuels & ice	156.3	154.8	143.0	136.5	128.4	96.3
Housefurnishings	187.5	184.2	182.6	165.6	156.1	100.6
Miscellaneous	140.8	139.8	139.1	129.9	127.9	100.4
<u>Percent Changes to September 15, 1947</u>						
ALL ITEMS	-	2.2	4.3	12.3	22.9	66.1
All Foods	-	3.6	6.8	16.9	39.8	117.6
Cereals & bakery products	-	1.3	2.1	14.9	29.2	69.0
Meats, Poultry & Fish	-	5.3	10.9	27.6	79.6	151.4
Dairy products	-	6.2	13.8	4.6	32.1	109.7
Eggs	-	11.1	28.9	22.0	60.4	160.1
Fruits & vegetables	-	-0.8	-3.3	12.4	8.0	114.5
Beverages	-	2.9	3.1	15.4	49.1	97.0
Fats & oils	-	-1.1	-6.2	16.6	39.7	109.0
Sugar & sweets	-	0.7	0.8	28.0	33.0	89.4
Apparel	-	0.9	1.0	13.1	19.3	87.0
Rent	-	2.2	4.0	4.4	4.7	8.9
Fuel, electricity & ice	-	0.6	5.9	8.9	12.8	27.8
Gas & electricity	-	0.1	0.4	0.4	0	- 7.0
Other fuels & ice	-	1.0	9.3	14.5	21.7	62.3
Housefurnishings	-	1.8	2.7	13.2	20.1	86.4
Miscellaneous	-	0.7	1.2	8.4	10.1	40.2

*See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
SEPTEMBER INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO SEPTEMBER 15, 1947
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0	Percent Changes to September 15, 1947 from				
	Sept. 15 1947	Aug. 15 1947	June 15 1947	Sept. 15 1946	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	163.8	2.2	4.3	12.3	22.9	66.1
<u>Surveyed Monthly</u>						
Birmingham	169.1	1.5	4.3	15.0	23.9	71.7
Boston	158.6	2.7	5.5	12.0	24.0	63.3
Chicago	168.3	3.4	6.3	15.2	28.6	70.5
Cincinnati	166.3	2.5	4.9	14.4	25.8	70.9
Detroit	164.2	0.9	3.5	12.0	20.4	66.7
Houston,	162.1	1.5	2.9	13.5	24.2	61.0
Los Angeles	161.6	2.4	3.4	11.1	18.7	60.8
New York	161.9	2.1	3.2	8.4	19.2	63.5
Philadelphia	163.2	2.3	3.9	11.8	23.2	66.9
Pittsburgh	168.2	2.0	4.4	14.1	24.9	70.9
<u>Surveyed Quarterly</u>						
Baltimore	167.8	-	4.5	13.3	23.7	70.0
Jacksonville	168.5	-	3.1	12.2	21.7	71.1
Memphis	169.0	-	5.2	15.6	25.7	72.8
Minneapolis	162.1	-	6.0	13.8	25.3	62.6
Mobile	164.3	-	3.1	13.2	23.6	66.6
Portland, Me.	159.2	-	3.8	12.6	23.7	64.0
St. Louis	165.4	-	6.3	15.7	26.1	68.6
San Francisco	165.7	-	4.0	9.8	20.2	66.9

*See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, SEPTEMBER 15, 1947

(Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	163.8	203.5	187.6	113.6	124.6	92.1	156.3	187.5	140.8
Atlanta, Ga.	-	209.4	-	-	136.8	78.2	190.7	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	167.8	212.8	187.0	111.5	132.8	115.5	146.8	193.8	141.2
Birmingham, Ala.	169.1	210.9	188.0	-	128.8	79.6	165.6	176.7	139.1
Boston, Mass.	158.6	195.3	180.4	110.3	133.6	106.6	148.1	177.2	136.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	-	196.5	-	-	125.4	96.0	151.5	-	-
Chicago, Ill.	168.3	211.0	189.2	127.6	118.7	83.5	155.2	178.1	139.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	166.3	206.7	190.0	109.2	126.0	90.8	159.5	181.6	142.3
Cleveland, Ohio	-	211.0	-	-	131.7	104.9	157.3	-	-
Denver, Colo.	-	199.0	-	-	106.2	68.5	149.2	-	-
Detroit, Mich.	164.2	197.4	186.8	-	134.1	84.1	172.1	199.6	153.7
Houston, Texas	162.1	206.4	196.5	-	94.4	81.9	128.0	186.7	140.9
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	203.0	-	-	135.7	86.6	164.6	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	168.5	209.1	180.3	116.5	133.9	94.1	168.4	172.5	152.5
Kansas City, Mo.	-	193.5	-	-	117.2	66.9	163.1	-	-
Los Angeles, Calif.	161.6	204.2	182.9	-	94.5	89.3	119.3	179.6	140.7
Manchester, N. H.	-	201.3	-	-	137.5	94.6	158.9	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	169.0	220.5	204.6	-	122.8	77.0	148.1	168.7	133.5
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	200.1	-	-	131.7	98.3	154.8	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	162.1	197.2	194.7	119.6	124.1	78.4	153.9	186.9	141.8
Mobile, Ala.	164.3	206.8	183.3	119.7	123.0	84.3	153.4	170.7	133.9
New Orleans, La.	-	216.8	-	-	109.3	75.1	145.8	-	-
New York, N. Y.	161.9	203.0	188.9	-	124.4	95.6	168.7	176.4	140.9
Norfolk, Va.	-	210.7	-	-	130.1	93.7	158.8	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	163.2	199.8	183.4	-	129.1	97.8	153.2	186.3	139.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	168.2	209.8	216.1	-	127.6	103.3	169.4	189.5	137.0
Portland, Me.	159.2	193.6	183.3	108.0	133.2	96.7	151.1	183.1	142.7
Portland, Ore.	-	209.9	-	-	121.6	91.3	158.8	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	203.8	-	-	126.2	95.6	144.8	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	165.4	215.9	183.2	113.1	124.5	94.1	151.5	164.7	134.7
San Francisco, Calif.	165.7	210.4	178.8	110.4	82.7	72.7	118.2	157.1	150.3
Savannah, Ga.	-	220.3	-	-	133.3	91.2	158.0	-	-
Scranton, Pa.	-	206.6	-	-	134.1	91.8	159.9	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-	206.0	-	-	117.7	88.1	142.4	-	-
Washington, D. C.	-	202.9	-	-	125.6	94.4	146.5	-	-

*See General Explanation on Page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM AUGUST 15 TO SEPTEMBER 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	2.2	3.6	0.9	2.2	0.6	0.1	1.0	1.8	0.7
Atlanta, Ga.	-	5.3	-	-	-0.1	-0.1	0	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	-	2.9	-	a/4.0	0.1	0	0.1	-	-
Birmingham, Ala.	1.5	3.0	0.1	-	0	0	0	1.8	0.7
Boston, Mass.	2.7	3.9	0.9	b/4.5	0.1	0.3	0	2.3	0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	-	2.1	-	-	0.4	0.6	0.3	-	-
Chicago, Ill.	3.4	3.9	1.6	c/9.6	0	0	-0.1	0.7	0.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	2.5	4.2	1.5	d/2.7	0.3	0	0.4	0.2	0.6
Cleveland, Ohio	-	3.3	-	-	0.8	0	1.3	-	-
Denver, Colo.	-	1.6	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Detroit, Mich.	0.9	1.0	1.2	-	0	0	0	3.0	0.9
Houston, Texas	1.5	2.8	2.2	-	0.1	0	0	0.6	0.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	3.8	-	-	0	0	0.1	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	2.0	-	b/3.3	0.2	0	0.4	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	-	5.4	-	-	1.7	0.3	2.3	-	-
Los Angeles, Calif.	2.4	4.5	2.5	-	0	0	0	1.6	0.5
Manchester, N. H.	-	2.3	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	3.3	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	1.7	-	-	-0.1	-0.1	0	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	-	5.2	-	b/7.4	2.1	1.8	2.1	-	-
Mobile, Ala.	-	3.0	-	b/2.7	0.2	0	0.3	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	2.7	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
New York, N. Y.	2.1	4.5	-1.0	-	3.2	0.2	6.0	0.9	0.2
Norfolk, Va.	-	3.7	-	-	-0.5	-1.3	0	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	2.3	4.2	0.9	-	1.0	0	1.7	2.3	0.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	2.0	3.9	1.8	-	0.5	0	1.0	0.1	0.3
Portland, Me.	-	1.4	-	e/1.8	0.1	0.1	0	-	-
Portland, Ore.	-	2.4	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	4.9	-	-	-0.3	-1.1	0	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	-	5.3	-	d/6.4	0	0	0	-	-
San Francisco, Calif.	-	5.0	-	f/3.4	0	0	0	-	-
Savannah, Ga.	-	2.4	-	-	-0.1	0	-0.3	-	-
Scranton, Pa.	-	3.6	-	-	0.5	0	0.8	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-	2.8	-	-	0.3	1.5	-0.3	-	-
Washington, D. C.	-	2.9	-	-	0.9	0	1.3	-	-

*See General Explanation on page 3.

a/ Change from January 1947.

b/ Change from March 1947.

c/ Change from May 1947.

d/ Change from June 1947.

e/ Change from April 1947.

f/ Change from February 1947.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS BY CITIES
FROM JUNE 15 TO SEPTEMBER 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	4.3	6.8	1.0	4.0	5.9	0.4	9.3	2.7	1.2
Atlanta, Ga.	-	8.5	-	-	6.5	-0.1	9.2	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	4.5	5.2	3.6	a/4.0	6.2	2.2	9.0	4.0	3.5
Birmingham, Ala.	4.3	6.9	2.0	-	6.9	0	9.5	2.9	0.3
Boston, Mass.	5.5	8.7	4.0	b/4.5	4.8	1.0	6.2	1.1	-0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	-	5.1	-	-	6.2	1.2	9.2	-	-
Chicago, Ill.	6.3	8.8	2.4	c/9.6	5.6	0	9.0	1.3	1.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	4.9	8.2	2.4	2.7	8.4	0	13.6	1.3	1.4
Cleveland, Ohio	-	6.4	-	-	7.7	0	13.2	-	-
Denver, Colo.	-	3.7	-	-	6.7	0	10.4	-	-
Detroit, Mich.	3.5	4.7	2.6	-	9.6	0.5	13.5	4.9	2.6
Houston, Texas	2.9	5.2	4.2	-	0	0	0	1.4	0.8
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	7.6	-	-	10.2	0	13.9	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	3.1	5.0	1.9	b/3.3	2.6	1.4	3.2	1.1	0.9
Kansas City, Mo.	-	7.5	-	-	7.1	0.9	9.6	-	-
Los Angeles, Calif.	3.4	5.4	3.3	-	0	0	0	2.0	1.7
Manchester, N. H.	-	5.8	-	-	4.6	0	5.9	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	5.2	7.5	4.9	-	5.7	0	7.4	6.1	1.4
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	4.9	-	-	7.4	0	11.1	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	6.0	8.0	3.5	b/7.4	8.0	-0.6	11.1	4.5	3.1
Mobile, Ala.	3.1	5.0	0.7	b/2.7	4.1	0.2	5.7	0.2	1.8
New Orleans, La.	-	6.4	-	-	1.9	0	2.9	-	-
New York, N. Y.	3.2	8.0	-6.1	-	6.4	1.7	11.0	1.8	0.6
Norfolk, Va.	-	6.4	-	-	3.8	-1.3	6.4	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	3.9	6.8	0.6	-	5.2	0	8.1	3.4	0.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	4.4	6.6	3.3	-	5.6	0	12.4	5.6	0.4
Portland, Me.	3.8	4.5	2.6	a/1.8	4.5	0.6	5.6	2.3	4.8
Portland, Ore.	-	5.1	-	-	-1.0	1.6	-2.6	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	9.7	-	-	7.1	-1.1	10.9	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	6.3	9.7	3.0	6.4	6.8	0	11.0	3.8	1.5
San Francisco, Calif.	4.0	6.9	1.2	e/3.4	0	0	0	1.3	1.8
Savannah, Ga.	-	5.2	-	-	4.0	0	5.3	-	-
Scranton, Pa.	-	6.0	-	-	5.9	0	8.1	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-	6.6	-	-	4.7	1.5	6.4	-	-
Washington, D. C.	-	6.3	-	-	5.6	0	8.4	-	-

*See General Explanation on page 3.

a/ Change from January 1947.

b/ Change from March 1947.

c/ Change from May 1947.

d/ Change from April 1947.

e/ Change from February 1947.

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Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - OCTOBER 15, 1947

Consumers' Price Index Unchange - September to October

The complete index showing changes between mid-September and mid-October for all 34 large cities combined is shown in this report. To save time in completing this index a preliminary report was not issued this month. A SPECIAL REPORT ON RENTS IS INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE ON PAGES 3 TO 4.

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Retail prices of goods and services bought by moderate-income families in large cities were unchanged on the average from mid-September to mid-October, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. A 0.9 percent decrease in food prices over the month counter-balanced the average increase of 0.7 percent for all other goods and services. The October consumers' price index remained at the all-time high of 163.8 percent of the 1935-39 base period; 10.2 percent higher than a year ago; and 22.9 percent above June 1946. Prices of all major groups except foods advanced; residential rents were up 1.1 percent, apparel and miscellaneous items 0.7 percent, fuel 0.5 percent and housefurnishings 0.1 percent.

Food prices decreased 0.9 percent between mid-September and mid-October to bring the October food index for 56 cities combined to 201.6 (1935-39 = 100). Seasonally lower prices for meat (down 2.1 percent), dairy products (down 2.6 percent), eggs (down 1.4 percent) and fruit and vegetables (down 0.8 percent), more than offset increased prices for cereals and bakery goods, fats and oils, coffee and sugar. Prices of meats continued their advance in most southern cities, 13 of the 19 cities which showed either unchanged or higher average food prices were in these regions. For all 56 cities combined, however, lamb dropped 7 percent, round steak and whole hams 5 percent, pork chops 3-1/2 percent and beef roasts and veal outlets 2 percent. Fats and oils rose 7.6 percent with lard 19 percent higher, coffee was up 2 percent and cereals and bakery products advanced 1.6 percent.

October apparel prices averaged 0.7 percent above September. Higher prices for wool outer apparel reflected rising costs of woolen and worsted yarns. Higher material costs also accounted for increases in prices of men's and boys' cotton furnishings, particularly shirts and shorts, women's and girls' rayon and cotton dresses and slips and percale and rayon crepe yard goods. Higher prices were reported for all types of footwear for all members of the family. Men's hats, women's nylon hose and girdles were available at lower prices.

Housefurnishings prices advanced another 0.2 percent over the month as prices of rugs, sewing machines, washing machines, refrigerators and cook-stoves continued to rise. Lower prices were reported, in most of the cities surveyed, for curtains and towels, now in plentiful supply, and radios. Prices of sheets rose in nearly every city.

Increased prices for automobiles and soap were chiefly responsible for the average advance of 0.7 percent in prices of miscellaneous goods and services. Higher prices were also reported for hospital and laundry services, and new State sales taxes added to prices of cigarettes and tobacco in some cities.

Fuel, electricity and ice as a group rose 0.5 percent from mid-September to mid-October. Coal prices continued to advance in most cities, due partly to a 10-cent per net ton increase in freight rates which became effective on October 13.

Residential Rents Increase 5 Percent During First Four Months Under the Housing and Rent Act of 1947

Residential rents in large cities advanced 5 percent during the first 4 months under the Housing and Rent Act of 1947. Most of the rent changes during these 4 months resulted from increases permitted by voluntary agreements between landlords and tenants, under the modified rent controls adopted in June 1947, but other increases included "hardship" adjustments, higher rents for "decontrolled" units and some over-ceiling charges.

These results were obtained from surveys of rents for residential dwellings in 29 of the 34 cities included in the Bureau's consumers' price index. Six of these cities were surveyed in July, 7 in August, 10 in September, and 11 in October, 5 of which were surveyed during the previous 3 months. National trend was estimated on the basis of these studies.

The rapid change reported in the last 4 months contrasts sharply with the relative stability of rents under the stricter wartime rent controls. In the 32 months between September 1939 and May 1942 rents advanced slightly more than 5 percent, but with the imposition of rent controls beginning in June 1942, residential rents were cut back or stabilized and in the 5-year period from the summer of 1942 to July 1947 rose only 1 percent.

Percent change in residential
rents in 34 large cities

Sept. 1939 - May 1942	+5.2
May 1942 - Dec. 1942	-1.7
Dec. 1942 - June 1947	+1.1
June 1947 - Oct. 1947	+5.2

All of the 29 cities surveyed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics after June 1947 showed an advance in rents; the sharpest advance was reported in Chicago where rents rose 9.5 percent between mid-June and mid-September.

The full effect of the first 4 months' experience under the amended rent controls is shown in 11 cities in which surveys were made in mid-October. In 7 of the 11 cities, rents rose more than 5 percent during the 4 months.

The smallest advances - around 1 percent - were reported for Manchester, Savannah, New York and Buffalo. In Detroit, Pittsburgh, and Portland, Oregon, the increase in rents for all dwellings was somewhat more than 5 percent. Rents in Denver and Richmond advanced over 6 percent, in Kansas City over 7 percent and in Indianapolis 8.4 percent.

Ten cities were surveyed in mid-September, covering the period from mid-June to mid-September. In all these 10 cities, rents rose more than 1 percent during the 3 months. For Cincinnati, Jacksonville, Baltimore and San Francisco, the increase was about 3 percent. Rents in Boston advanced over 4 percent, in Minneapolis and St. Louis about 6 percent, and in Chicago 9.5 percent.

Among the cities surveyed in mid-July or mid-August, the average increase in rents from mid-June ranged from less than 1 percent in New Orleans, Philadelphia and Washington to more than 5 percent in Birmingham.

The proportions of renter-occupied dwellings which were effected by rent increases varied considerably from city to city. Substantial proportions of renters were effected in the 21 cities surveyed in September and October. While less than 10 percent of the rental dwellings were effected in Buffalo, Manchester, Mobile, New York, Portland, Maine, and Savannah a large proportion reported rent increases in the other cities. In Cincinnati and Jacksonville 1 in every 3 rental units was effected; San Francisco and Baltimore, 1 in every 5; Boston, Detroit, and Portland, Oregon, 1 in every 4; in Denver, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Minneapolis, Pittsburgh, Richmond and St. Louis, 1 in every 3; and in Chicago 1 in every 2.

The typical percentage increase in the monthly rent for these dwellings with higher rents was about 15 percent, although it averaged higher in some cities. The increase usually ranged between \$4.00 and \$8.00 per month.

The rent surveys made thus far show that the majority of rent increases have been made in apartments. Beginning more than a year ago, many landlords, particularly for apartment structures, requested prospective tenants to sign leases containing an agreement on a 15 percent increase upon termination of Federal rent controls. Under these leases the 15 percent increases permitted could readily be made after the passage of the Act. Landlords of single-family houses in many cases appear to be reluctant to tie up their properties for as long as 18 months, with the potential possibilities of favorable sales offers, and consequently have not followed this practice to as great an extent. Voluntary landlord-tenant lease agreements (which cannot be made after December 31, 1947 under the present law) reached a peak in August 1947 when 549,000 were filed with the Office of Rent Control in all areas under control. During November the number filed dropped to 135,000.

The Housing and Rent Act of 1947 permits rent increases up to 15 percent if the landlord and tenant agree "voluntarily and in good faith", and providing a written lease agreement extends to at least December 31, 1948. This provision is the one primarily responsible for the increased rentals reported for the dwellings included in the Bureau's surveys. Other provisions decontrolled all hotels and motor courts, tourist homes serving transient guests exclusively, all housing completed on or after February 1, 1947, and all dwellings which were not rented during the two-year period from February 1, 1945 to January 31, 1947. The Act also eliminated the 6-month waiting period granted to tenants to protect them from short-notice evictions resulting from the sale of rented dwellings. Local advisory boards were created with the power to recommend general increases in rent or complete decontrol for their areas. By the end of November, according to the

Office of the Housing Expediter, recommendations for decontrol made by local advisory boards were approved for 11 small areas out of a total of 17 areas for which such requests were made. In addition, general increases in rent of 5 percent for Louisville, Kentucky, and 10 percent in Klamath Falls, Oregon, were approved. In Washington, D. C., which has its own rent control law, rental rates for units located in structures containing less than 9 units were permitted to be increased an estimated 3 to 4 percent beginning in October 1947.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services weighted by quantities bought in 1934-36 by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first three days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of food in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In August 1947 the number of foods included in the index was reduced from 61 to 50.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 3 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April July, October</u>	<u>February, May August, November</u>	<u>March, June September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Madison	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Ore.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. Information on rents is obtained at least quarterly in each city.

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October 1947

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Oct. 15 1947	Sept. 15 1947	July 15 1947	Oct. 15 1946	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
<u>Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0</u>						
ALL ITEMS	163.8	163.8	158.4	148.6	133.3	98.6
All Foods	201.6	203.5	193.1	180.0	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	160.3	157.8	155.0	138.5	122.1	93.4
Meats, Poultry & Fish	235.5	240.6	220.2	190.7	134.0	95.7
Dairy products	190.1	195.2	178.3	202.4	147.8	93.1
Eggs	232.7	235.9	203.0	214.6	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	196.6	198.2	202.0	176.5	183.5	92.4
Beverages	190.8	187.0	180.8	166.5	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	190.0	176.6	182.0	147.9	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	181.3	181.1	179.7	167.5	136.2	95.6
Apparel	189.0	187.6	184.7	168.1	157.2	100.3
Rent	114.9	113.6	110.0	-	208.5	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	125.2	124.6	119.5	114.4	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.2	92.1	91.7	91.6	92.1	99.0
Other fuels & ice	157.4	156.3	146.6	136.6	128.4	96.3
Housefurnishings	187.3	187.5	184.3	168.5	156.1	100.6
Miscellaneous	141.8	140.3	139.5	131.0	127.9	100.4
<u>Percent Changes to October 15, 1947</u>						
ALL ITEMS	-	0	3.4	10.2	22.9	66.1
All Foods	-	-0.9	4.4	12.0	38.5	115.6
Cereals & bakery products	-	1.6	3.4	15.7	31.3	71.6
Meats, Poultry and Fish	-	-2.1	6.9	23.5	75.7	146.1
Dairy products	-	-2.6	6.3	6.1	28.6	104.2
Eggs	-	-1.4	14.6	8.4	58.2	156.6
Fruits & vegetables	-	-0.8	2.7	11.4	7.1	112.5
Beverages	-	2.0	5.5	14.6	52.2	101.1
Fats & oils	-	7.6	4.4	28.5	50.3	124.9
Sugar & sweets	-	0.4	1.2	8.5	33.5	90.2
Apparel	-	0.7	2.3	12.4	20.2	88.4
Rent	-	1.1	4.5	-	5.9	10.2
Fuel, electricity & ice	-	0.5	4.8	9.4	13.3	28.4
Gas & electricity	-	0.1	0.5	0.7	0.1	- 6.9
Other fuels & ice	-	0.7	7.4	15.2	22.6	63.4
Housefurnishings	-	0.2	1.9	11.5	20.3	86.7
Miscellaneous	-	0.7	1.6	8.2	10.9	41.2

*See General Explanation on page 5.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
OCTOBER INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO OCTOBER 15, 1947
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0	Percent Changes to October 15, 1947 from				
	Oct. 15 1947	Sept. 15 1947	July 15 1947	Oct. 15 1946	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	163.8	0	3.4	10.2	22.9	66.1
<u>Surveyed Monthly</u>						
Birmingham, Ala.	169.7	0.4	3.4	12.8	24.3	72.3
Boston, Mass.	157.5	-0.7	3.7	8.9	23.1	62.2
Chicago, Ill.	167.3	-0.6	4.5	11.9	27.8	69.5
Cincinnati, Ohio	167.1	0.5	4.2	14.1	26.4	71.7
Detroit, Mich.	166.7	1.5	4.1	12.0	22.2	69.2
Houston, Texas	163.4	0.8	3.2	13.3	25.2	62.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	161.3	-0.2	2.6	8.6	18.5	60.5
New York, N. Y.	161.7	-0.1	2.7	5.8	19.1	63.3
Philadelphia, Pa.	162.2	-0.6	2.5	9.7	22.4	65.8
Pittsburgh, Pa.	167.8	-0.2	3.2	12.3	24.6	70.5
<u>Surveyed Quarterly</u>						
Buffalo, N. Y.	162.6	-	2.2	11.0	22.6	65.1
Denver, Colo.	160.4	-	3.0	11.6	21.8	62.7
Indianapolis, Ind.	167.8	-	5.2	-	27.2	71.2
Kansas City, Mo.	157.9	-	4.9	11.1	22.0	60.1
Manchester, N. H.	166.1	-	2.5	-	23.3	69.8
Portland, Oreg.	166.5	-	2.7	-	18.7	66.3
Richmond, Va.	161.7	-	5.1	-	26.1	65.0
Savannah, Ga.	171.5	-	3.4	10.5	22.0	72.7

*See General Explanation on page 5.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, OCTOBER 15, 1947

(Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	163.8	201.6	189.0	114.9	125.2	92.2	157.4	187.8	141.8
Atlanta, Ga.	-	211.1	-	-	136.8	78.2	190.7	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	-	211.5	-	-	133.4	115.5	147.8	-	-
Birmingham, Ala.	169.7	210.7	190.7	-	129.8	79.6	167.8	177.2	139.9
Boston, Mass.	157.5	191.8	180.7	-	134.3	107.4	148.8	175.7	136.8
Buffalo, N. Y.	162.6	193.3	193.2	117.2	126.4	96.0	153.4	197.4	146.6
Chicago, Ill.	167.3	207.1	189.4	-	119.2	83.5	156.4	178.5	141.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	167.1	206.9	190.8	-	128.3	90.8	164.1	183.6	143.9
Cleveland, Ohio	-	208.7	-	-	131.7	104.9	157.3	-	-
Denver, Colo.	160.4	197.2	185.9	117.7	105.5	68.5	147.8	206.8	139.9
Detroit, Mich.	166.7	199.0	189.6	121.3	135.2	83.8	174.2	200.6	155.0
Houston, Texas	163.4	208.7	197.0	-	94.3	81.9	128.0	186.9	142.5
Indianapolis, Ind.	167.8	204.5	180.9	125.4	136.5	86.6	165.8	178.6	148.7
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	214.7	-	-	133.9	94.1	168.4	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	157.9	193.5	181.2	119.2	117.1	66.7	163.1	175.3	140.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	161.3	201.9	184.2	-	94.5	89.3	119.3	180.8	141.7
Manchester, N. H.	166.1	198.0	184.0	109.6	139.5	94.6	161.9	193.0	138.4
Memphis, Tenn.	-	223.6	-	-	123.1	77.0	148.6	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	197.6	-	-	131.8	98.3	154.8	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	-	194.6	-	-	124.8	78.4	155.1	-	-
Mobile, Ala.	-	209.3	-	-	123.0	84.2	153.4	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	219.5	-	-	109.3	75.1	145.7	-	-
New York, N. Y.	161.7	200.6	180.4	105.6	124.7	95.7	169.2	179.1	141.9
Norfolk, Va.	-	214.3	-	-	132.5	93.7	162.9	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	162.2	196.2	184.8	-	129.8	97.8	154.3	186.4	139.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	167.8	206.1	217.1	114.6	127.6	103.3	169.4	191.6	138.2
Portland, Me.	-	190.9	-	-	133.5	96.9	151.5	-	-
Portland, Ore.	166.5	208.7	184.9	120.8	121.7	91.5	158.9	178.0	142.9
Richmond, Va.	161.7	205.1	186.7	111.4	126.4	95.6	145.2	193.4	133.4
St. Louis, Mo.	-	209.4	-	-	127.1	94.1	156.3	-	-
San Francisco, Calif.	-	208.8	-	-	82.7	72.7	118.2	-	-
Savannah, Ga.	171.5	219.2	183.7	116.6	133.5	91.2	158.3	192.4	143.6
Scranton, Pa.	-	199.1	-	-	134.5	91.8	160.6	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-	205.4	-	-	118.6	88.1	144.0	-	-
Washington, D. C.	-	200.9	-	-	126.4	94.4	147.8	-	-

*See General Explanation on page 5.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM SEPTEMBER 15 TO OCTOBER 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	0	-0.9	0.7	1.1	0.5	0.1	0.7	0.2	0.7
Atlanta, Ga.	-	0.8	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	-	-0.6	-	-	0.5	0	0.7	-	-
Birmingham, Ala.	0.4	-0.1	1.4	-	0.8	0	1.0	0.3	0.6
Boston, Mass.	-0.7	-1.8	2.2	-	0.5	0.8	0.5	-0.8	0.4
Buffalo, N. Y.	-	-1.6	-	a/1.6	0.8	0	1.3	-	-
Chicago, Ill.	-0.6	-1.8	0.1	-	0.4	0	0.8	0.2	1.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.5	0.1	0.4	-	1.8	0	2.9	1.1	1.1
Cleveland, Ohio	-	-1.1	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Denver, Colo.	-	-0.9	-	a/6.4	-0.7	0	-0.9	-	-
Detroit, Mich.	1.5	0.8	1.5	b/5.1	0.8	-0.4	1.2	0.5	0.8
Houston, Texas	0.8	1.1	0.3	-	0	0	0	0.1	1.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	0.7	-	c/7.4	0.6	0	0.7	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	2.7	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	-	0	-	c/5.5	-0.1	-0.3	0	-	-
Los Angeles, Calif.	-0.2	-1.1	0.7	-	0	0	0	0.7	0.7
Manchester, N. H.	-	-1.6	-	b/0.9	1.5	0	1.9	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	1.4	-	-	0.2	0	0.3	-	-
Milwaukee, Wis.	-	-1.2	-	-	0.1	0	0	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	-	1.3	-	-	0.6	0	0.8	-	-
Mobile, Ala.	-	1.2	-	-	0	-0.1	0	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	1.2	-	-	0	0	-0.1	-	-
New York, N. Y.	-0.1	-1.2	0.3	c/1.4	0.2	0.1	0.3	1.5	0.7
Norfolk, Va.	-	1.7	-	-	1.8	0	2.6	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.6	-1.8	0.8	-	0.5	0	0.7	0.1	0.4
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.2	-1.8	0.5	d/2.1	0	0	0	1.1	0.9
Portland, Me.	-	-1.4	-	-	0.2	0.2	0.3	-	-
Portland, Ore.	-	-0.6	-	e/6.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	0.6	-	b/6.5	0.2	0	0.3	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	-	-3.0	-	-	2.1	0	3.2	-	-
San Francisco, Calif.	-	-0.8	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Savannah, Ga.	-	-0.5	-	c/0.9	0.2	0	0.2	-	-
Scranton, Pa.	-	-3.6	-	-	0.3	0	0.4	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-	-0.3	-	-	0.8	0	1.1	-	-
Washington, D. C.	-	-1.0	-	-	0.6	0	0.9	-	-

*See General Explanation on page 3.

a/ Change from May 1947.

b/ Change from June 1947.

c/ Change from July 1947.

d/ Change from August 1947.

e/ Change from April 1947.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM JULY 15 TO OCTOBER 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Electricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	3.4	4.4	2.3	4.5	4.8	0.5	7.4	1.9	1.6
Atlanta, Ga.	-	8.5	-	-	6.5	0.1	9.2	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	-	3.4	-	-	4.3	0.9	6.5	-	-
Birmingham, Ala.	3.4	4.4	3.9	-	0.8	0	1.0	2.4	1.0
Boston, Mass.	3.7	4.5	3.5	-	4.1	1.9	5.0	1.5	0.7
Buffalo, N. Y.	2.2	2.4	2.0	a/1.6	5.3	0.6	8.0	1.1	1.5
Chicago, Ill.	4.5	4.4	3.0	-	3.5	0	5.5	-0.5	2.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	4.2	6.5	0.4	-	10.4	0	16.9	0	2.4
Cleveland, Ohio	-	4.5	-	-	7.7	0	13.2	-	-
Denver, Colo.	3.0	2.9	1.9	a/6.4	4.5	0	6.9	3.1	1.8
Detroit, Mich.	4.1	4.0	3.8	b/5.1	9.0	-0.4	13.0	4.3	2.6
Houston, Texas	3.2	5.0	3.5	-	0.1	0	0	1.6	2.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	5.2	6.7	2.7	c/7.4	8.5	0	11.5	1.2	3.7
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	6.4	-	-	2.6	1.4	3.2	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	4.9	6.7	7.5	c/5.5	4.0	0.3	5.4	2.2	1.5
Los Angeles, Calif.	2.6	4.2	3.8	-	0	0	0	1.1	1.5
Manchester, N. H.	2.5	2.8	2.7	b/0.9	5.4	0	7.0	2.6	0.9
Memphis, Tenn.	-	6.4	-	-	0.6	0	0.7	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	2.2	-	-	6.3	0	9.3	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	-	6.6	-	-	3.8	1.8	4.5	-	-
Mobile, Ala.	-	5.4	-	-	2.4	0	3.4	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	5.9	-	-	0.8	0	1.3	-	-
New York, N. Y.	2.7	4.6	-1.1	c/1.4	6.1	1.7	10.2	2.7	0.9
Norfolk, Va.	-	7.4	-	-	5.7	-1.3	9.1	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	2.5	3.9	1.7	-	4.4	0	6.8	2.3	0.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	3.2	3.1	4.5	d/2.1	0.5	-0.1	1.0	4.4	1.2
Portland, Me.	-	1.3	-	-	4.7	0.7	5.9	-	-
Portland, Ore.	2.7	3.0	3.6	e/6.1	1.1	1.8	0.7	1.6	1.1
Richmond, Va.	5.1	8.9	1.9	b/6.5	5.2	-1.1	8.0	0.6	1.0
St. Louis, Mo.	-	4.2	-	-	3.9	0	6.1	-	-
San Francisco, Calif.	-	4.2	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Savannah, Ga.	3.4	5.7	3.3	e/0.9	4.1	0	5.5	2.7	-0.1
Scranton, Pa.	-	1.5	-	-	5.7	0	7.9	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-	4.2	-	-	5.5	1.5	7.6	-	-
Washington, D. C.	-	5.6	-	-	5.3	0	7.9	-	-

*See General Explanation on page 1.

a/ Change from May 1947.

b/ Change from June 1947.

c/ Change from July 1947.

d/ Change from August 1947.

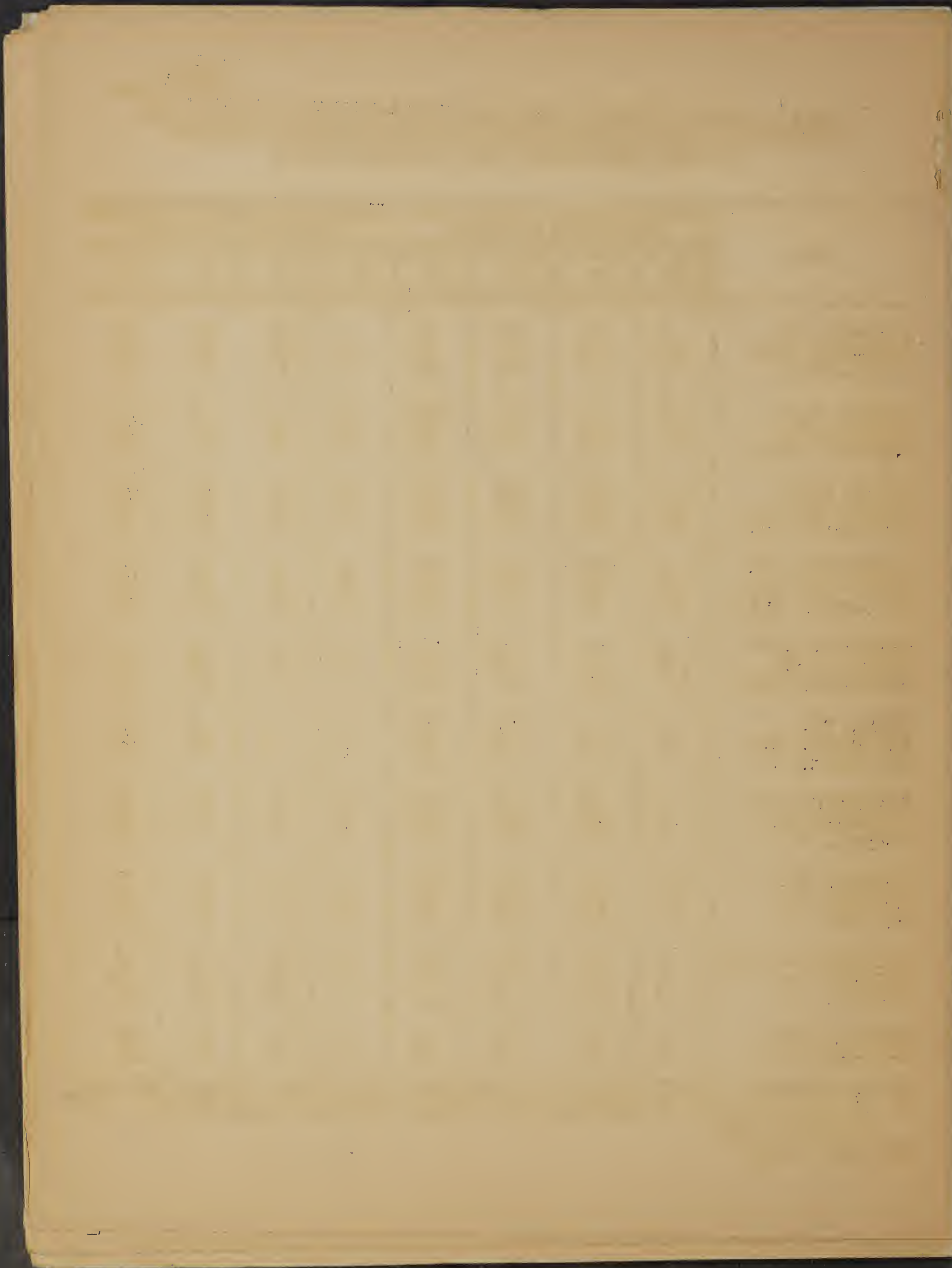
e/ Change from April 1947.

TABLE 6 - PERCENT INCREASE IN RENTS FOR RESIDENTIAL RENTAL DWELLINGS AND PROPORTION OF TOTAL RESIDENTIAL RENTAL DWELLINGS AFFECTED BY INCREASES IN LARGE CITIES BETWEEN JUNE AND OCTOBER 1947 1/

City	Percent increase in rents for all rental dwellings				Percent of all rental dwellings affected by increases			
	June 15 to	June 15 to	June 15 to	June 15 to	June 15 to	June 15 to	June 15 to	June 15 to
	July 15	Aug. 15	Sept. 15	Oct. 15	July 15	Aug. 15	Sept. 15	Oct. 15
Baltimore, Md.	.6	2.1	3.3	<u>2/</u>	5	11	19	<u>2/</u>
Birmingham, Ala.	1.6	5.3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	9	25	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Boston, Mass.	.3	2.5	4.4	<u>2/</u>	2	14	23	<u>2/</u>
Buffalo, N. Y.	.4	.5	1.0	1.6	2	3	6	9
Chicago, Ill.	4.9	8.2	9.5	<u>2/</u>	26	47	55	<u>2/</u>
Cincinnati, Ohio	.7	1.7	2.7	<u>2/</u>	4	10	14	<u>2/</u>
Denver, Colo.	.5	3.0	4.3	6.4	4	19	25	36
Detroit, Mich.	1.1	3.5	4.3	5.1	6	19	23	27
Indianapolis, Ind.	1.0	3.9	5.6	8.4	5	19	23	33
Jacksonville, Fla.	.3	1.6	3.0	<u>2/</u>	2	7	14	<u>2/</u>
Kansas City, Mo.	1.9	3.5	4.7	7.6	11	21	29	37
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.0	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	6	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Manchester, N. H.	.1	.5	.6	.9	1	3	4	6
Memphis, Tenn.	.1	3.9	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	2	24	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Minneapolis, Minn.	1.5	4.1	6.6	<u>2/</u>	7	20	34	<u>2/</u>
Mobile, Ala.	.3	.9	1.2	<u>2/</u>	2	5	7	<u>2/</u>
New Orleans, La.	0	.5	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	0	7	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
New York, N. Y.	.1	.5	.8	1.5	1	3	5	10
Philadelphia, Pa.	.3	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Pittsburgh, Pa.	.5	3.4	4.3	5.6	3	20	27	33
Portland, Me.	.1	.4	1.2	<u>2/</u>	1	3	7	<u>2/</u>
Portland, Ore.	2.3	3.9	5.0	5.6	7	16	21	23
Richmond, Va.	0	1.3	5.1	6.5	1	8	26	36
St. Louis, Mo.	2.6	5.1	6.4	<u>2/</u>	10	25	34	<u>2/</u>
San Francisco, Calif.	.1	2.2	3.2	<u>2/</u>	1	12	19	<u>2/</u>
Savannah, Ga.	0	0	.2	.9	0	0	1	4
Scranton, Pa.	.7	1.5	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	5	10	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Seattle, Wash.	.5	1.8	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	3	11	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Washington, D. C.	.1	.6	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	1	4	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>

1/ The following 5 cities included in the Consumers' Price Index: Atlanta, Cleveland, Houston, Milwaukee and Norfolk were not surveyed during the period June 15 - October 15, 1947.

2/ Not available.



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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - NOVEMBER 15, 1947

Consumers' Prices Resume Advance from October to November

The complete index showing changes between mid-October and mid-November for large cities combined is given in this report. Preliminary figures were released December 28.

Retail prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities rose 0.7 percent from mid-October to mid-November, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor. Higher prices for all groups of items advanced the consumers' price index for November to 164.9 percent of the 1935-39 average -- a new all-time-high. The November index was 8.3 percent higher than a year ago, 23.7 percent above June 1946 and 67.2 percent over the August 1939 level. Retail prices of fuels and ice as a group increased 1.4 percent over the month; other groups of items advanced less than 1 percent.

Retail food prices, resuming their upward trend after the October decline, advanced 0.5 percent between mid-October and mid-November to bring the food index for November to 202.7 percent of the 1935-39 base, a level slightly below the September 1947 peak of 202.0, 8 percent above a year ago and 116.8 percent higher than the August 1939 level. Lower prices for meats (down 4.8), poultry (-2.6), and eggs (-3.4) were not sufficient to offset advances for other foods. Prices of cereals and bakery products increased 4.7 percent, dairy products 4.4 percent, fats and oils 3.4 percent, beverages 2 percent, fruits and vegetables 1.5 percent, and sugar and sweets 0.8 percent.

The rise of 1.4 percent in the fuel, electricity and ice group from mid-October to mid-November reflected higher prices for all types of fuels. Anthracite, bituminous coal and fuel oil prices increased in most of the cities. Upward adjustments of gas and electricity rates, because of increased fuel costs, were reported for some cities.

Prices of apparel and housefurnishing items advanced 0.6 percent on the average over the month. Higher prices for shoes contributed largely to the increase in the apparel group. Prices also advanced in most cities for men's and boys' wool suits, cotton shirts and underwear, women's rayon dresses and slips, and rayon and cotton yard goods. The increase in the housefurnishings group was led by higher prices for upholstered furniture, electric refrigerators and sewing machines, with scattered increases reported for other furniture items, wool and hard-surfaced floor covering, bedding, cook stoves and radios.

Increased prices for automobiles, gasoline, soaps and household paper products advanced the miscellaneous group 0.8 percent over the month. Increased costs for medical services were reported in some cities.

Residential rents in large cities continued their advance to mid-November, rising 0.3 percent on the average over the month.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services weighted by quantities bought in 1934-36 by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first three days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of food in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In August 1947 the number of foods included in the index was reduced from 61 to 50.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April July, October</u>	<u>February, May August, November</u>	<u>March, June September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Ore.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. Information on rents is obtained at least quarterly in each city.

November 1947

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Nov. 15 1947	Oct. 15 1947	Aug. 15 1947	Nov. 15 1946	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
<u>Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0</u>						
All Items	164.9	163.8	160.3	152.2	133.3	98.6
All Foods	202.7	201.6	196.5	187.7	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	167.9	160.3	155.7	140.6	122.1	93.4
Meats, Poultry & Fish	227.0	235.5	228.4	203.6	134.0	95.7
Dairy products	198.4	190.1	183.8	198.5	147.8	93.1
Eggs	224.7	232.7	212.3	201.6	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	199.6	196.6	199.8	184.5	183.5	92.4
Beverages	194.7	190.8	181.7	167.8	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	196.4	190.0	178.5	244.4	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	183.2	181.8	179.8	170.5	136.2	95.6
Apparel	190.2	189.0	185.9	171.0	157.2	100.3
Rent	115.2	114.9	111.2	-	108.5	104.3
Fuel, electricity & ice	126.9	125.2	123.8	114.8	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	92.5	92.2	92.0	91.8	92.1	99.0
Other fuels & ice	160.5	157.4	154.8	137.2	128.4	96.3
Housefurnishings	188.9	187.8	184.2	171.0	156.1	100.6
Miscellaneous	143.0	141.8	139.8	132.5	127.9	100.4
<u>Percent Changes to November 15, 1947</u>						
All Items	-	0.7	2.9	8.3	23.7	67.2
All Foods	-	0.5	3.2	8.0	39.2	116.8
Cereals & bakery products	-	4.7	7.8	19.4	37.5	79.8
Meats, Poultry & Fish	-	-3.6	-0.6	11.5	69.4	137.2
Dairy products	-	4.4	7.9	-0.1	34.2	113.1
Eggs	-	-3.4	5.8	11.5	52.8	147.7
Fruits & vegetables	-	1.5	-0.1	8.2	8.8	116.0
Beverages	-	2.0	7.2	16.0	55.3	105.2
Fats & oils	-	3.4	10.0	-19.6	55.4	132.4
Sugar & sweets	-	0.8	1.9	7.4	34.5	91.6
Apparel	-	0.6	2.3	11.2	21.0	89.6
Rent	-	0.3	3.6	-	6.2	10.5
Fuel, electricity & ice	-	1.4	2.5	10.5	14.8	30.2
Gas & electricity	-	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.4	- 6.6
Other fuels & ice	-	2.0	3.7	17.0	25.0	66.7
Housefurnishings	-	0.6	2.6	10.5	21.0	87.8
Miscellaneous	-	0.8	2.3	7.9	11.8	42.4

*See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
NOVEMBER INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO NOVEMBER 15, 1947
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0 Nov. 15 1947	Percent Changes to November 15, 1947 from				
		Oct. 15 1947	Aug. 15 1947	Nov. 15 1946	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	164.9	0.7	2.9	8.3	23.7	67.2
Surveyed Monthly						
Birmingham, Ala.	171.6	1.1	3.0	8.7	25.7	74.2
Boston, Mass.	158.3	0.5	2.5	8.4	23.8	63.0
Chicago, Ill.	168.3	0.6	3.4	10.4	28.6	70.5
Cincinnati, Ohio	167.1	0	3.0	9.3	26.4	71.7
Detroit, Mich.	166.6	-0.1	2.3	9.6	22.1	69.1
Houston, Texas	165.8	1.5	3.8	10.5	27.0	64.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	164.1	1.7	4.0	6.2	20.6	63.3
New York, N. Y.	163.3	1.0	3.0	5.8	20.3	64.9
Philadelphia, Pa.	164.2	1.2	2.9	9.1	23.9	67.9
Pittsburgh, Pa.	168.1	0.2	1.9	9.3	24.8	70.8
Surveyed Quarterly						
Atlanta, Ga.	167.5	-	3.3	-	25.2	70.9
Cleveland, Ohio	166.9	-	2.4	8.4	23.0	66.9
Milwaukee, Wisc.	164.0	-	3.1	-	25.0	69.1
New Orleans, La.	173.2	-	2.8	-	25.5	73.7
Norfolk, Va.	168.2	-	2.8	-	24.4	72.0
Scranton, Pa.	165.2	-	1.5	-	25.0	72.1
Seattle, Wash.	166.2	-	2.7	7.0	21.3	65.7
Washington, D. C.	161.7	-	1.6	7.6	20.9	64.0

*See General Explanation on page 3.

running

November 1947

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, NOVEMBER 15, 1947

(Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	164.9	202.7	190.2	115.2	126.9	92.5	160.5	188.9	143.0
Atlanta, Ga.	167.5	206.9	190.5	116.1	140.0	78.3	196.8	189.6	147.1
Baltimore, Md.	-	211.8	-	-	133.9	116.2	148.3	-	-
Birmingham, Ala.	171.6	212.7	192.8	135.6	129.8	79.6	167.4	178.2	141.1
Boston, Mass.	158.3	192.4	182.1	-	138.0	107.5	154.3	176.6	137.7
Buffalo, N. Y.	-	194.8	-	-	126.5	96.0	153.7	-	-
Chicago, Ill.	168.3	207.8	191.0	-	121.7	83.5	161.5	180.0	142.5
Cincinnati, Ohio	167.1	204.2	191.2	-	131.5	97.1	164.4	184.3	146.9
Cleveland, Ohio	166.9	206.1	190.4	122.9	134.1	104.3	162.5	171.6	142.4
Denver, Colo.	-	201.0	-	-	105.5	68.5	147.8	-	-
Detroit, Mich.	166.6	196.7	190.8	-	137.2	84.0	177.5	200.3	156.6
Houston, Texas	165.8	210.2	198.7	116.7	94.3	81.9	128.0	190.6	144.5
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	204.3	-	-	139.9	86.6	171.2	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	211.0	-	-	134.6	94.1	169.7	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	-	194.2	-	-	112.3	66.4	167.6	-	-
Los Angeles, Calif.	164.1	206.7	184.3	118.9	94.5	89.3	119.3	181.2	142.4
Manchester, N. H.	-	199.0	-	-	145.2	94.6	170.5	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	226.2	-	-	126.6	77.0	154.0	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	164.0	200.7	191.9	114.7	132.9	98.4	156.7	193.1	140.4
Minneapolis, Minn.	-	193.7	-	-	126.6	78.4	157.9	-	-
Mobile, Ala.	-	206.8	-	-	123.0	84.2	153.4	-	-
New Orleans, La.	173.2	220.2	193.0	110.4	109.5	75.1	146.1	186.2	140.7
New York, N. Y.	163.3	203.9	189.7	-	125.8	96.2	171.2	180.6	143.1
Norfolk, Va.	168.2	210.6	182.5	113.4	137.5	93.7	172.0	182.0	145.3
Philadelphia, Pa.	164.2	197.5	185.8	116.3	130.4	97.8	155.4	189.0	140.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	168.1	205.2	218.3	-	129.2	103.3	173.7	192.4	139.6
Portland, Me.	-	190.7	-	-	138.3	99.4	157.3	-	-
Portland, Ore.	-	214.2	-	-	122.5	91.8	160.2	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	201.0	-	-	130.4	95.6	151.7	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	-	209.9	-	-	128.4	94.1	158.8	-	-
San Francisco, Calif.	-	214.4	-	-	82.7	72.7	118.2	-	-
Savannah, Ga.	-	217.5	-	-	136.1	91.2	162.5	-	-
Scranton, Pa.	165.2	202.8	192.3	105.1	134.5	91.8	160.6	184.1	136.2
Seattle, Wash.	166.2	207.6	181.8	119.1	118.7	88.1	144.2	184.8	146.6
Washington, D. C.	161.7	202.0	211.7	101.8	126.8	94.4	148.4	196.7	146.0

*See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM OCTOBER 15 TO NOVEMBER 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.3	1.4	0.3	2.0	0.6	0.8
Atlanta, Ga.	-	-2.0	-	a/7.3	2.3	0.1	3.2	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	-	0.1	-	-	0.4	0.6	0.3	-	-
Birmingham, Ala.	1.1	0.9	1.1	b/3.0	0	0	0.1	0.6	0.9
Boston, Mass.	0.5	0.3	0.8	-	2.8	0.1	3.7	0.5	0.7
Buffalo, N. Y.	-	0.8	-	-	0.1	0	0.2	-	-
Chicago, Ill.	0.6	0.3	0.8	-	2.1	0	3.3	0.8	1.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	0	-1.3	0.2	-	2.5	6.9	0.2	0.4	2.1
Cleveland, Ohio	-	-1.2	-	c/6.0	1.8	-0.6	3.3	-	-
Denver, Colo.	-	1.9	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Detroit, Mich.	-0.1	-1.2	0.6	-	1.5	0.2	1.9	-0.1	1.0
Houston, Texas	1.5	0.7	0.9	c/5.4	-0.1	0	0	2.0	1.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	-0.1	-	-	2.5	0	3.3	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	-1.7	-	-	0.5	0	0.8	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	-	0.4	-	-	1.9	-0.4	2.8	-	-
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.7	2.4	0.1	d/4.6	0	0	0	0.2	0.5
Manchester, N. H.	-	0.5	-	-	4.1	0	5.3	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	1.2	-	-	2.8	0	3.6	-	-
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-	1.6	-	e/5.0	0.8	0.1	1.2	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	-	-0.5	-	-	1.4	0	1.8	-	-
Mobile, Ala.	-	-1.2	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	0.3	-	b/1.8	0.2	0	0.3	-	-
New York, N. Y.	1.0	1.6	0.2	-	0.9	0.5	1.2	0.8	0.8
Norfolk, Va.	-	-1.7	-	a/3.8	3.8	0	5.6	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.2	0.7	0.5	d/5.2	0.5	0	0.7	1.4	0.9
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.2	-0.4	0.6	-	1.3	0	2.5	0.4	1.0
Portland, Me.	-	-0.1	-	-	3.6	2.6	3.8	-	-
Portland, Ore.	-	2.6	-	-	0.7	0.3	0.8	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	-2.0	-	-	3.2	0	4.5	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	-	0.2	-	-	1.0	0	1.6	-	-
San Francisco, Calif.	-	2.7	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Savannah, Ga.	-	-0.8	-	-	1.9	0	2.7	-	-
Scranton, Pa.	-	1.9	-	b/1.6	0	0	0	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-	1.1	-	b/4.0	0.1	0	0.1	-	-
Washington, D. C.	-	0.5	-	b/0.7	0.3	0	0.4	-	-

See General Explanation on page 3.

- / Change from May 1947.
- / Change from August 1947.
- / Change from April 1947.
- / Change from July 1947.
- / Change from June 1947.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, - BY CITIES
FROM AUGUST 15 TO NOVEMBER 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House-furnishings	Miscellaneous
					Total	Gas & Elect-ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	2.9	3.2	2.3	3.6	2.5	0.5	3.7	2.6	2.3
Atlanta, Ga.	3.3	4.0	3.5	a/7.3	2.3	0	3.2	1.8	0.7
Baltimore, Md.	-	2.4	-	-	0.9	0.6	1.1	-	-
Birmingham, Ala.	3.0	3.9	2.7	3.0	0.8	0	1.1	2.7	2.1
Boston, Mass.	2.5	2.4	1.8	-	3.4	1.1	4.2	1.9	1.2
Buffalo, N. Y.	-	1.2	-	-	1.3	0.6	1.7	-	-
Chicago, Ill.	3.4	2.3	2.5	-	2.5	0	4.0	1.8	2.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	3.0	3.0	2.1	-	4.7	6.9	3.5	1.7	3.9
Cleveland, Ohio	2.4	0.9	3.7	b/6.0	2.7	-0.6	4.6	1.2	2.5
Denver, Colo.	-	2.7	-	-	-0.7	0	-0.9	-	-
Detroit, Mich.	2.3	0.6	3.4	-	2.3	-0.1	3.1	3.4	2.8
Houston, Texas	3.8	4.7	3.4	b/5.4	0	0	0	2.7	2.9
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	4.5	-	-	3.1	0	4.1	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	2.9	-	-	0.7	0	1.2	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	-	5.8	-	-	3.6	-0.4	5.1	-	-
Los Angeles, Calif.	4.0	5.8	3.3	c/4.6	0	0	0	2.5	1.7
Manchester, N. H.	-	1.1	-	-	5.6	0	7.3	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	5.9	-	-	3.1	0	4.0	-	-
Milwaukee, Wis.	3.1	2.0	4.7	d/5.0	0.8	0	1.2	4.1	3.9
Minneapolis, Minn.	-	3.4	-	-	4.1	1.8	4.7	-	-
Mobile, Ala.	-	3.0	-	-	0.2	-0.1	0.3	-	-
New Orleans, La.	2.8	4.4	0.8	1.8	0.2	0	0.2	1.9	1.1
New York, N. Y.	3.0	4.9	-0.6	-	4.4	0.8	7.5	3.3	1.8
Norfolk, Va.	2.8	3.6	2.1	a/3.8	5.2	-1.3	8.3	-0.4	1.3
Philadelphia, Pa.	2.9	3.0	2.2	c/5.2	2.0	0	3.1	3.8	1.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.9	1.6	2.9	-	1.7	0	3.6	1.6	2.2
Portland, Me.	-	-0.2	-	-	3.9	2.9	4.1	-	-
Portland, Ore.	-	4.5	-	-	0.7	0.5	0.9	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	3.4	-	-	3.0	-1.1	4.8	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	-	2.4	-	-	3.1	0	4.8	-	-
San Francisco, Calif.	-	7.0	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Savannah, Ga.	-	1.1	-	-	1.9	0	2.6	-	-
Scranton, Pa.	1.5	1.7	0.6	1.6	0.8	0	1.2	3.0	1.6
Seattle, Wash.	2.7	3.6	0.8	4.0	1.1	1.5	0.9	2.8	1.7
Washington, D. C.	1.6	2.5	1.6	0.7	1.8	0	2.6	1.4	0.8

*See General Explanation on page 3.

a/ Change from May 1947.

b/ Change from April 1947.

c/ Change from July 1947.

d/ Change from June 1947.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX - DECEMBER 15, 1947

Consumers' Prices Rise to a New All-Time Peak in Mid-December

: The complete index showing changes :
: between mid-November and mid-December for :
: large cities combined is given in this :
: report. Preliminary figures were released :
: January 23, 1948 :

Retail prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities advanced 1.3 percent from mid-November to mid-December, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor. Higher prices for all groups of living essentials raised the consumers' price index for December 1947 to a new all-time high at 167.0 percent of the 1935-39 average. The December index was 8.9 percent higher than a year ago, 25.3 percent above June 1946, and 69.4 percent over the August 1939 level. Since May 1947, when the present upward trend began, the index has risen 7 percent.

Average retail food prices in large cities increased 2.1 percent over the month. Higher prices were reported for all groups of foods. Increased prices for shortening and oleomargarine in most cities were responsible for the 6.0 percent rise in the fats and oils group. Egg prices were up 5.1 percent contrary to the usual seasonal trend. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices rose 3.5 percent on the average, as higher prices for apples, cabbages, carrots, onions, potatoes and spinach more than offset seasonally lower prices for oranges and a sharp drop in prices of green beans. Dairy products advanced 3.3 percent on the average. Prices of meats, poultry and fish as a group were fractionally higher. Sugar and coffee prices continued to rise.

Apparel prices in large cities increased 0.5 percent on the average from mid-November to mid-December. The continued rise in prices for men's, women's and children's shoes contributed largely to the advance in the apparel group. Higher prices were also reported in most cities for women's rayon dresses and slips, men's socks and wool suits, girls' cotton dresses, and rayon and cotton yard goods. Partially offsetting these increases were lower prices for overalls, cotton house-dresses, and girls' wool coats.

Prices of housefurnishings averaged 1.3 percent higher over the month. Increased prices were reported for living room, bedroom and dining room suites, studio couches, cook stoves, radios and washing machines. Prices also advanced in most cities for sheets, towels, and curtains. Prices for vacuum cleaners and dinnerware declined.

Higher prices for automobiles, tires, and soap products reported for nearly every city surveyed in December were mainly responsible for the increase of 1.0 percent in the miscellaneous group. Scattered increases were reported for prices of prescriptions, laundry services, hospital rates and movie admissions. Street car fares were higher in Minneapolis and San Francisco.

The fuel, electricity and ice group advanced 0.7 percent from mid-November to mid-December, reflecting higher prices for fuel oil, and anthracite and bituminous coal. Increased electricity and gas rates reported for some cities were attributed to higher costs of fuel.

Rents continued to rise slowly, and on December 15, 1947 were 6.4 percent higher than in June 1946.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of selected goods, rents and services weighted by quantities bought in 1934-36 by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36.

The indexes are based on time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities. They do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first three days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month. Aggregate costs of food in each city, weighted to represent food purchases of families of wage earners and moderate-income workers have been combined for the United States with the use of population weights. In August 1947 the number of foods included in the index was reduced from 61 to 50.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Ore.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. Information on rents is obtained at least quarterly in each city.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES
FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED* FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES

Group	Dec. 15 1947	Nov. 15 1947	Sept. 15 1947	Dec. 15 1946	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
<u>Indexes 1939-39 = 100.0</u>						
All Items	167.0	164.9	163.8	153.3	133.3	98.6
All Foods	206.9	202.7	203.5	185.9	145.6	93.5
Cereal & Bakery Products	170.5	167.9	157.8	141.7	122.1	93.4
Meat, Poultry and Fish	227.3	227.0	240.6	197.8	134.0	95.7
Dairy Products	204.9	198.4	195.2	200.9	147.8	93.1
Eggs	236.1	224.7	235.9	201.1	147.1	90.7
Fruits & Vegetables	205.3	199.6	198.2	185.0	183.5	92.4
Beverage	198.5	194.7	187.0	176.2	125.4	94.9
Fats and Oils	208.2	196.4	176.6	207.3	126.4	84.5
Sugar and Sweets	183.7	183.2	181.1	175.3	136.2	95.6
Apparel	191.2	190.2	187.6	176.5	157.2	100.3
Rent	115.4	115.2	113.6	-	108.5	104.3
Fuel, Electricity & Ice	127.8	126.9	124.6	115.5	110.5	97.5
Gas & Electricity	92.6	92.5	92.1	92.0	92.1	99.0
Other Fuels & Ice	162.0	160.5	156.3	138.3	128.4	96.3
Housefurnishings	191.4	188.9	187.5	177.1	156.1	100.6
Miscellaneous	144.4	143.0	140.8	136.1	127.9	100.4
<u>Percent Changes to December 15, 1947</u>						
All Items	-	1.3	2.0	8.9	25.3	69.4
All Foods	-	2.1	1.7	11.3	42.1	121.3
Cereal & Bakery Products	-	1.5	8.0	20.3	39.6	82.5
Meat, Poultry and Fish	-	0.1	-3.5	14.9	69.6	137.5
Dairy Products	-	3.3	3.0	2.0	38.6	120.1
Eggs	-	5.1	0.1	17.4	60.5	160.3
Fruits and Vegetables	-	2.9	3.6	11.0	11.9	122.2
Beverage	-	2.0	6.1	12.7	58.3	109.2
Fats and Oils	-	6.0	17.9	0.4	64.7	146.4
Sugar and Sweets	-	0.3	1.4	4.8	34.9	92.2
Apparel	-	0.5	1.9	8.3	21.6	90.6
Rent	-	0.2	1.6	-	6.4	10.6
Fuel, Electricity & Ice	-	0.7	2.6	10.6	15.7	31.1
Gas & Electricity	-	0.1	0.5	0.7	0.5	-6.5
Other Fuels & Ice	-	0.9	3.6	17.1	26.2	68.2
Housefurnishings	-	1.3	2.1	8.1	22.6	90.3
Miscellaneous	-	1.0	2.6	6.1	12.9	43.8

* See general explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
DECEMBER INDEXES AND PERCENT CHANGES TO DECEMBER 15, 1947
FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0	Percent Changes to December 15, 1947 from				
	Dec. 15 1947	Nov. 15 1947	Sept. 15 1947	Dec. 15 1946	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	167.0	1.3	2.0	8.9	25.3	69.4
<u>Surveyed Monthly</u>						
Birmingham, Ala.	173.8	1.3	2.8	9.7	27.3	76.4
Boston, Mass.	160.4	1.3	1.1	8.2	25.4	65.2
Chicago, Ill.	170.1	1.1	1.1	11.2	29.9	72.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	170.3	1.9	2.4	11.5	28.8	75.0
Detroit, Mich.	169.0	1.4	2.9	10.4	23.9	71.6
Houston, Texas	169.3	2.1	4.4	11.2	29.7	68.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	166.0	1.2	2.7	7.4	22.0	65.2
New York, N. Y.	164.9	1.0	1.9	6.2	21.4	66.6
Philadelphia, Pa.	166.3	1.3	1.9	9.0	25.5	70.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	170.2	1.2	1.2	9.5	26.4	73.0
<u>Surveyed Quarterly</u>						
Baltimore, Md.	171.3	-	2.1	10.0	26.3	73.6
Jacksonville, Fla.	173.9	-	3.2	9.5	25.7	76.5
Memphis, Tenn.	173.5	-	2.7	11.0	29.0	77.4
Minneapolis, Minn.	166.3	-	2.5	11.0	28.4	66.7
Mobile, Ala.	170.3	-	3.7	10.9	28.1	72.7
Portland, Me.	162.0	-	1.8	8.6	25.9	66.8
St. Louis, Mo.	167.9	-	1.5	11.0	28.0	71.2
San Francisco, Calif.	168.9	-	1.9	5.3	22.6	70.1

* See general explanation on Page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
INDEXES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES, DECEMBER 15, 1947

(Indexes 1935-39 = 100.0)

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	167.0	206.9	191.2	115.4	127.8	92.6	162.0	191.4	144.4
Atlanta, Ga.	-	211.1	-	-	140.0	78.2	196.8	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	171.3	217.8	192.3	112.6	135.0	116.9	149.6	197.2	143.5
Birmingham, Ala.	173.8	217.0	197.0	-	130.9	79.6	169.1	182.2	141.1
Boston, Mass.	160.4	195.7	183.3	111.4	140.7	107.7	158.4	178.6	138.8
Buffalo, N. Y.	-	200.3	-	-	126.9	96.0	154.5	-	-
Chicago, Ill.	170.1	210.5	193.4	129.2	122.5	83.5	163.0	181.0	143.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	170.3	211.6	189.1	110.7	132.2	97.1	165.7	187.7	148.0
Cleveland, Ohio	-	212.3	-	-	135.2	104.3	164.3	-	-
Denver, Colo.	-	205.6	-	-	105.3	68.5	147.4	-	-
Detroit, Mich.	169.0	202.0	191.6	-	137.1	84.0	177.3	201.7	158.6
Houston, Texas	169.3	218.1	200.5	-	94.3	81.9	218.0	190.7	147.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	208.8	-	-	139.9	86.6	171.2	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	173.9	216.6	186.0	118.5	139.0	100.2	172.6	183.5	156.4
Kansas City, Mo.	-	197.3	-	-	119.1	66.1	167.5	-	-
Los Angeles, Calif.	166.0	211.1	187.1	-	94.3	89.3	118.0	182.5	142.8
Manchester, N. H.	-	204.7	-	-	149.1	94.6	176.3	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	173.5	229.7	205.2	124.5	127.0	77.0	154.6	171.7	134.5
Milwaukee, Wis.	-	204.6	-	-	132.9	98.4	156.6	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	166.2	199.3	200.8	122.4	129.0	78.5	161.9	192.2	148.0
Mobile, Ala.	170.3	216.3	197.5	120.5	125.4	84.1	157.8	177.1	135.1
New Orleans, La.	-	222.1	-	-	109.8	75.1	146.8	-	-
New York, N. Y.	164.9	206.1	191.7	-	126.2	96.4	171.9	181.2	145.5
Norfolk, Va.	-	216.1	-	-	137.5	93.7	172.0	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	166.3	201.8	186.8	-	130.4	97.8	155.5	193.0	141.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	170.2	209.6	219.3	-	132.4	103.3	182.5	193.6	140.6
Portland, Me.	162.0	195.2	191.4	109.7	140.6	99.5	160.8	183.7	144.4
Portland, Ore.	-	219.0	-	-	124.5	93.1	163.0	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	207.6	-	-	130.4	95.6	151.7	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	167.9	215.2	192.9	115.3	128.7	94.1	159.2	168.5	138.5
San Francisco, Calif.	168.9	215.7	181.5	112.2	82.7	72.7	118.6	161.3	152.8
Savannah, Ga.	-	222.2	-	-	137.9	91.2	165.3	-	-
Scranton, Pa.	-	210.0	-	-	134.5	91.8	160.6	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-	213.4	-	-	118.7	88.1	144.2	-	-
Washington, D. C.	-	207.4	-	-	126.9	94.4	148.6	-	-

* See general explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM NOVEMBER 15 TO DECEMBER 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	1.3	2.1	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.9	1.3	1.0
Atlanta, Ga.	-	2.0	-	-	0	-0.1	0	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	-	2.8	-	a/1.0	0.8	0.6	0.9	-	-
Birmingham, Ala.	1.3	2.0	2.2	-	0.8	0	1.0	2.2	0
Boston, Mass.	1.3	1.7	0.7	a/1.0	2.0	0.2	2.7	1.1	0.8
Buffalo, N. Y.	-	2.8	-	-	0.3	0	0.5	-	-
Chicago, Ill.	1.1	1.3	1.3	a/1.3	0.7	0	0.9	0.6	0.5
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.9	3.6	-1.1	a/1.4	0.5	0	0.8	1.8	0.7
Cleveland, Ohio	-	3.0	-	-	0.8	0	1.4	-	-
Denver, Colo.	-	2.3	-	-	-0.2	0	-0.3	-	-
Detroit, Mich.	1.4	2.7	0.4	-	-0.1	0	-0.1	0.7	1.3
Houston, Texas	2.1	3.8	0.9	-	0	0	0	0.1	2.0
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	2.2	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	-	2.7	-	a/1.7	3.3	6.5	1.7	-	-
Kansas City, Mo.	-	1.6	-	-	-0.2	-0.5	-0.1	-	-
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.2	2.1	1.5	-	-0.2	0	-1.1	0.7	0.3
Manchester, N. H.	-	2.9	-	-	2.7	0	3.4	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	-	1.5	-	b/3.3	0.3	0	0.4	-	-
Milwaukee, Wis.	-	1.9	-	-	0	0	-0.1	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	-	2.9	-	a/2.3	1.9	0.1	2.5	-	-
Mobile, Ala.	-	4.6	-	a/0.7	2.0	-0.1	2.9	-	-
New Orleans, La.	-	0.9	-	-	0.3	0	0.5	-	-
New York, N. Y.	1.0	1.1	1.1	-	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3	1.7
Norfolk, Va.	-	2.6	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.3	2.2	0.5	-	0	0	0.1	2.1	0.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.2	2.1	0.5	-	2.5	0	5.1	0.6	0.7
Portland, Me.	-	2.4	-	a/1.6	1.7	0.1	2.2	-	-
Portland, Ore.	-	2.2	-	-	1.6	1.4	1.7	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	3.3	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	-	2.5	-	a/1.9	0.2	0	0.3	-	-
San Francisco, Calif.	-	0.6	-	a/1.6	0	0	0.3	-	-
Savannah, Ga.	-	2.2	-	-	1.3	0	1.7	-	-
Scranton, Pa.	-	3.6	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-	2.8	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
Washington, D. C.	-	2.7	-	-	0.1	0	0.1	-	-

* See general explanation on page 3

a/ Change from September 1947.

b/ Change from August 1947.

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR LARGE CITIES*
PERCENT CHANGES BY GROUPS, BY CITIES
FROM SEPTEMBER 15 TO DECEMBER 15, 1947

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elect. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
AVERAGE	2.0	1.7	1.9	1.6	2.6	0.5	3.6	2.1	2.6
Atlanta, Ga.	-	0.8	-	-	2.3	0	3.2	-	-
Baltimore, Md.	2.1	2.3	2.8	1.0	1.7	1.2	1.9	1.8	1.6
Birmingham, Ala.	2.8	2.9	4.8	-	1.6	0	2.1	3.1	1.4
Boston, Mass.	1.1	0.2	1.6	1.0	5.3	1.0	7.0	0.8	1.9
Buffalo, N. Y.	-	1.9	-	-	1.2	0	2.0	-	-
Chicago, Ill.	1.1	0.2	2.2	1.3	3.2	0	5.0	1.7	2.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	2.4	2.4	-0.5	1.4	4.9	6.9	3.9	3.4	4.0
Cleveland, Ohio	-	0.6	-	-	2.7	-0.6	4.8	-	-
Denver, Colo.	-	3.3	-	-	-0.8	0	-1.2	-	-
Detroit, Mich.	2.9	2.3	2.6	-	2.2	-0.1	3.0	1.1	3.2
Houston, Texas	4.4	5.7	2.0	-	-0.1	0	0	2.1	4.6
Indianapolis, Ind.	-	2.9	-	-	3.1	0	4.0	-	-
Jacksonville, Fla.	3.2	3.6	3.2	1.7	3.8	6.5	2.5	6.4	2.6
Kansas City, Mo.	-	2.0	-	-	1.6	-1.2	2.7	-	-
Los Angeles, Calif.	2.7	3.4	2.3	-	-0.2	0	-1.1	1.6	1.5
Manchester, N. H.	-	1.7	-	-	8.4	0	11.0	-	-
Memphis, Tenn.	2.7	4.2	0.3	a/3.3	3.4	0	4.4	1.8	0.7
Milwaukee, Wis.	-	2.2	-	-	0.9	0.1	1.2	-	-
Minneapolis, Minn.	2.5	1.1	3.1	2.3	3.9	0.1	5.2	2.8	4.4
Mobile, Ala.	3.7	4.6	7.7	0.7	2.0	-0.2	2.9	3.7	0.9
New Orleans, La.	-	2.4	-	-	0.5	0	0.7	-	-
New York, N. Y.	1.9	1.5	1.5	-	1.4	0.8	1.9	2.7	3.3
Norfolk, Va.	-	2.6	-	-	5.7	0	8.3	-	-
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.9	1.0	1.9	-	1.0	0	1.5	3.6	1.9
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.2	-0.1	1.5	-	3.8	0	7.7	2.2	2.6
Portland, Me.	1.8	0.8	4.4	1.6	5.6	2.9	6.4	0.3	1.2
Portland, Ore.	-	4.3	-	-	2.4	2.0	2.6	-	-
Richmond, Va.	-	1.9	-	-	3.3	0	4.8	-	-
St. Louis, Mo.	1.5	-0.3	5.3	1.9	3.4	0	5.1	2.3	2.8
San Francisco, Calif.	1.9	2.5	1.5	1.6	0	0	0.3	2.7	1.3
Savannah, Ga.	-	0.9	-	-	3.5	0	4.6	-	-
Scranton, Pa.	-	1.6	-	-	0.3	0	0.4	-	-
Seattle, Wash.	-	3.6	-	-	0.8	0	1.3	-	-
Washington, D. C.	-	2.2	-	-	1.0	0	1.4	-	-

* See general explanation on page 3.

a/ Change from August 1947.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL FOOD PRICES
JANUARY 15, 1948

Consumers' Prices Reach Peak in Mid-January, 71 Percent Above Pre-War;
Retail Food Prices 1.4 Percent Higher in January than in December

: This report combines information on the :
: Consumers' Price Index and the Retail Food :
: Price Index, formerly issued as two separate :
: releases. Final indexes showing changes to :
: January 15, 1948, for individual cities and :
: large cities combined are given herein. Pre- :
: liminary National figures were released on :
: February 14, 1948. :

In January, retail prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities were at a new post-war peak. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, prices advanced 1.1 percent on the average from mid-December to mid-January, bringing the consumers' price index to 168.8 percent of the 1935-39 average; 26.6 percent above June 1946 and 71.2 percent higher than the August 1939 pre-war level. Prices were higher in January than in December for all groups of living essentials; foods rose 1.4 percent; apparel, housefurnishings and rents were up about 0.5 percent; fuel and miscellaneous commodities increased more than 1 percent.

The advance of 1.4 percent in retail prices of foods brought the food index for 56 large cities combined to 209.7 percent of the 1935-39 average to establish a new high, 14.1 percent above a year ago, 124.3 percent higher than August 1939, and 13.4 percent above the peak of June 1920. Thirty-nine of the 50 foods increased in price. Mainly responsible for the index rise was the increase of 4.5 percent for the meats, poultry and fish group. Prices of all items in this group, except bacon and salt pork, advanced although they usually decrease at this time of year. Fruits and vegetables advanced 1.5 percent with largest increases reported for spinach (14 percent) and lettuce (12 percent). Prices of cereals and bakery products rose 1.3 percent. Fats and oils increased 0.5 percent on the average, with shortening and salad oil up 2.5 percent and margarine up 0.7 percent. In the dairy products group, higher prices for milk and cheese were offset by a 1.5 percent decline in butter prices. Egg prices decreased seasonally by 9.5 percent.

Apparel prices in large cities increased 0.5 percent on the average over the month. Higher prices for shoes, men's suits and business shirts, and women's rayon dresses and slips and nylon hose were partially offset by seasonal sales at lower prices for woolen outer garments for women and girls and decreased prices for cotton housedresses. Scattered increases were reported for men's socks and cotton yardgoods.

Housefurnishings advanced 0.5 percent over the month and in mid-January were 23.2 percent above the level of June 1946 and 91.2 percent higher than in August 1939. Price advances were reported in most cities for wool rugs, bedroom, living room suites and dinette sets. Higher prices were also reported in some cities for bedsprings, sofa beds, gas cook stoves, and electric refrigerators, while prices of sheets decreased, due to January white sales.

The fuel, electricity and ice index advanced 1.3 percent on the average from mid-December to mid-January. Higher prices for residential fuels of all types were reported in 28 of the 34 cities surveyed. Utilities increased 0.5 percent on the average due mainly to higher cost of fuel.

Rents continued to advance slowly (up 0.4 percent for the month) to a point 6.5 percent higher than a year ago.

Miscellaneous goods and services rose 1.4 percent between mid-December and mid-January with most cities reporting higher prices for gasoline and motor oil, toilet and laundry soaps, automobiles, tires, and hospital rates. Scattered increases were reported for adult movie admissions, doctors' fees, and streetcar and bus fares. Cigarette prices increased in two cities due to higher taxes.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities. Time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services are weighted by 1934-36 average expenditures of families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36. City data are combined for the United States with the use of population weights.

The indexes do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first 3 days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month.

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. Information on rents is obtained at least quarterly in each city.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Ore.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Tables in this release contain index numbers for the current and other specified periods and show percent changes to the current period from specified dates.

Table 1 shows indexes for all items combined, groups and subgroups for large cities combined, for the current period, a month ago, 3 months ago, a year ago, June 1946 and August 1939.

Table 2 shows percent changes to the current period for indexes give in Table 1.

Table 3 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the month and over the quarter for each of 10 cities surveyed monthly.

Table 4 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the quarter for each of 8 cities surveyed quarterly.

Table 5 shows indexes for all items combined for specified periods and percent changes to the current period from specified dates for 18 cities surveyed this month.

January 1948

Table 6 shows current U.S. average prices for 50 food items.

Table 7 shows food price indexes for the current period, a month ago and 3 months ago, and corresponding percent changes for 38 cities for which only food price data are collected or for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

Table 8 shows fuel price indexes for the current period and percent changes to the current period from a month ago and 3 months ago for 18 cities for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

GUIDE TO TABLES IN THIS RELEASE

<u>Cities</u>	<u>Tables</u>	<u>Cities</u>	<u>Tables</u>
U.S. AVERAGE	1, 2, 6	Memphis, Tenn.	7, 8
Atlanta, Ga.	7, 8	Milwaukee, Wisc.	7, 8
Baltimore, Md.	7, 8	Minneapolis, Minn.	7, 8
Birmingham, Ala.	3, 5	Mobile, Ala.	7, 8
Boston, Mass.	3, 5	Newark, N. J.	7
Bridgeport, Conn.	7	New Haven, Conn.	7
Buffalo, N. Y.	4, 5	New Orleans, La.	7, 8
Butte, Mont.	7	New York, N. Y.	3, 5
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	7	Norfolk, Va.	7, 8
Charleston, S. C.	7	Omaha, Nebr.	7
Chicago, Ill.	3, 5	Peoria, Ill.	7
Cincinnati, Ohio	3, 5	Philadelphia, Pa.	3, 5
Cleveland, Ohio	7, 8	Pittsburgh, Pa.	3, 5
Columbus, Ohio	7	Portland, Me.	7, 8
Dallas, Tex.	7	Portland, Ore.	4, 5
Denver, Colo.	4, 5	Providence, R. I.	7
Detroit, Mich.	3, 5	Richmond, Va.	4, 5
Fall River, Mass.	7	Rochester, N. Y.	7
Houston, Tex.	3, 5	St. Louis, Mo.	7, 8
Indianapolis, Ind.	4, 5	St. Paul, Minn.	7
Jackson, Miss.	7	Salt Lake City, Utah	7
Jacksonville, Fla.	7, 8	San Francisco, Calif.	7, 8
Kansas City, Mo.	4, 5	Savannah, Ga.	4, 5
Knoxville, Tenn.	7	Scranton, Pa.	7, 8
Little Rock, Ark.	7	Seattle, Wash.	7, 8
Los Angeles, Calif.	3, 5	Springfield, Ill.	7, 8
Louisville, Ky.	7	Washington, D. C.	7
Manchester, N. H.	4, 5	Wichita, Kans.	7
		Winston-Salem, N. C.	7

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
(1935-39 = 100.0)

Group	Jan. 15 1948	Dec. 15 1947	Oct. 15 1947	Jan. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	168.8	167.0	163.8	153.3	133.3	98.6
ALL FOODS	209.7	206.9	201.6	183.8	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	172.7	170.5	160.3	143.4	122.1	93.4
Meats, poultry & fish	237.5	227.3	235.5	199.0	134.0	95.7
Meats	233.4	223.2	234.9	192.1	120.4	95.4
Beef & veal	239.7	227.6	233.6	190.9	121.2	99.6
Pork	225.9	218.2	240.9	190.8	114.3	88.0
Lamb	231.5	221.5	226.2	205.3	139.0	98.8
Chickens	200.0	190.7	189.5	185.8	162.8	94.6
Fish	310.9	302.3	286.5	271.3	219.7	99.6
Dairy products	205.7	204.9	190.1	190.1	147.8	93.1
Eggs	213.6	236.1	232.7	181.7	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	208.3	205.3	196.6	187.9	183.5	92.4
Fresh	215.7	212.1	201.1	184.1	196.7	92.8
Canned	158.0	157.3	155.2	173.6	127.5	91.6
Dried	256.8	255.4	255.6	269.2	172.5	90.3
Beverages	201.9	198.5	190.8	178.3	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	209.3	208.2	190.0	201.9	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	183.4	183.7	181.8	176.2	136.2	95.6
APPAREL	192.1	191.2	189.0	179.0	157.2	100.3
RENT	115.9	115.4	114.9	108.8	108.5	104.3
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	129.5	127.8	125.2	117.3	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	93.1	92.6	92.2	91.9	92.1	99.0
Other fuels & ice	165.0	162.0	157.4	142.1	128.4	96.3
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	192.3	191.4	187.8	179.1	156.1	100.6
MISCELLANEOUS	146.4	144.4	141.8	137.1	127.9	100.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*, AND PERCENT
CHANGES TO JANUARY 15, 1948 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS

Group	Dec. 15 1947	Oct. 15 1947	Jan. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	1.1	3.1	10.1	26.6	71.2
ALL FOODS	1.4	4.0	14.1	44.0	124.3
Cereal & bakery products	1.3	7.7	20.4	41.4	84.9
Meats, poultry & fish	4.5	0.8	19.3	77.2	148.2
Meats	4.6	-0.6	21.5	93.9	144.7
Beef & veal	5.3	2.6	25.6	97.8	140.7
Pork	3.5	-6.2	18.4	97.6	156.7
Lamb	4.5	2.3	12.8	66.5	134.3
Chickens	4.9	5.5	7.6	22.9	111.4
Fish	2.8	8.5	14.6	41.5	212.1
Dairy products	0.4	8.2	8.2	39.2	120.9
Eggs	-9.5	-8.2	17.6	45.2	135.5
Fruits & vegetables	1.5	6.0	10.9	13.5	125.4
Fresh	1.7	7.3	17.2	9.7	132.4
Canned	0.4	1.8	- 9.0	23.9	72.5
Dried	0.5	0.5	- 4.6	48.9	184.4
Beverages	1.7	5.8	13.2	61.0	112.8
Fats & oils	0.5	10.2	3.7	65.6	147.7
Sugar & sweets	-0.2	0.9	4.1	34.7	91.8
APPAREL	0.5	1.6	7.3	22.2	91.5
RENT	0.4	0.9	6.5	6.8	11.1
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	1.3	3.4	10.4	17.2	32.8
Gas & electricity	0.5	1.0	1.3	1.1	- 6.0
Other fuels & ice	1.9	4.8	16.1	28.5	71.3
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	0.5	2.4	7.4	23.2	91.2
MISCELLANEOUS	1.4	3.2	6.8	14.5	45.8

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 10 CITIES*
SURVEYED MONTHLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM OCTOBER 15 AND
DECEMBER 15, 1947 TO JANUARY 15, 1948 BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
January 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 - 100)									
Birmingham, Ala.	174.4	218.0	196.7	-	131.9	79.6	170.9	181.3	142.1
Boston, Mass.	163.1	200.3	183.5	-	145.6	108.9	165.2	181.4	140.4
Chicago, Ill.	171.5	213.2	193.5	-	123.0	83.5	164.2	181.4	144.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	171.2	213.0	188.9	-	134.7	97.1	170.6	188.4	149.1
Detroit, Mich.	170.6	205.1	191.2	123.8	137.6	84.1	178.2	200.6	159.4
Houston, Texas	170.8	221.5	199.4	-	94.3	81.8	128.0	191.0	149.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	167.6	212.2	189.9	-	94.3	89.3	118.0	185.3	145.7
New York, N. Y.	167.1	209.7	192.1	106.5	127.1	96.5	174.0	184.9	147.7
Philadelphia, Pa.	168.4	205.6	188.6	-	135.1	103.0	159.8	190.5	142.4
Pittsburgh, Pa.	172.3	212.8	216.5	115.9	132.9	103.3	183.9	193.7	144.8
Percent Changes from December 15, 1947									
Birmingham, Ala.	0.3	0.5	-0.2	-	0.8	0	1.1	-0.5	0.7
Boston, Mass.	1.7	2.4	0.1	-	3.5	1.1	4.3	1.6	1.2
Chicago, Ill.	0.8	1.3	0.1	-	0.4	0	0.7	0.2	1.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.5	0.7	-0.1	-	1.9	0	3.0	0.4	0.7
Detroit, Mich.	0.9	1.5	-0.2	-	0.4	0.1	0.5	-0.5	0.5
Houston, Texas	0.9	1.6	-0.5	-	0	-0.1	0	0.2	1.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.0	0.5	1.5	-	0	0	0	1.5	2.0
New York, N. Y.	1.3	1.7	0.2	-	0.7	0.1	1.2	2.0	1.5
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.3	1.9	1.0	-	3.6	5.3	2.8	-1.3	0.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.2	1.5	-1.3	-	0.4	0	0.8	0.1	3.0
Percent Changes from October 15, 1947									
Birmingham, Ala.	2.8	3.5	3.1	-	1.6	0	2.2	2.3	1.6
Boston, Mass.	3.6	4.4	1.5	-	8.4	1.4	11.0	3.2	2.6
Chicago, Ill.	2.5	2.9	2.2	-	3.2	0	5.0	1.6	2.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	2.5	2.9	-1.0	-	5.0	6.9	4.0	2.6	3.6
Detroit, Mich.	2.3	3.1	0.8	2.1	1.8	0.4	2.3	0	2.8
Houston, Texas	4.5	6.1	1.2	-	-0.1	-0.1	0	2.2	4.8
Los Angeles, Calif.	3.9	5.1	3.1	-	-0.2	0	-1.1	2.5	2.8
New York, N. Y.	3.3	4.5	1.4	0.9	1.9	0.8	2.8	3.2	4.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	3.8	4.8	2.1	-	4.1	5.3	3.6	2.2	2.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	2.7	3.3	-0.3	1.1	4.2	0	8.6	1.1	4.8

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 8 CITIES*
SURVEYED QUARTERLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM OCTOBER 15, 1947
TO JANUARY 15, 1948, BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
January 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Buffalo, N.Y.	167.4	202.1	193.8	119.1	127.1	96.0	154.9	200.3	151.7
Denver, Colo.	167.0	208.6	188.9	119.5	106.6	69.2	149.3	217.2	144.7
Indianapolis, Ind.	172.3	208.2	186.0	126.6	144.1	86.6	177.9	182.4	155.1
Kansas City, Mo.	162.4	199.4	185.3	120.8	120.5	66.3	170.0	179.2	145.8
Manchester, N. H.	172.5	208.8	185.7	110.0	153.4	94.6	182.7	195.0	140.7
Portland, Ore.	174.4	223.0	190.0	122.1	125.0	93.1	164.1	184.3	149.0
Richmond, Va.	165.1	209.1	189.9	111.8	133.9	95.6	157.2	203.4	135.7
Savannah, Ga.	175.6	222.9	190.3	116.9	143.3	91.2	173.7	203.2	146.2
Percent Changes from October 15, 1947									
Buffalo, N. Y.	3.0	4.6	0.3	1.6	0.6	0	1.0	1.5	3.5
Denver, Colo.	4.1	5.8	1.6	1.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	5.0	4.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	2.7	1.8	2.8	1.0	5.6	0	7.3	2.1	4.3
Kansas City, Mo.	2.8	3.0	2.3	1.3	2.9	-0.6	4.2	2.2	3.8
Manchester, N. H.	3.9	5.5	0.9	0.4	10.0	0	12.8	1.0	1.7
Portland, Ore.	4.7	6.9	2.8	1.1	2.7	1.7	3.3	3.5	4.3
Richmond, Va.	2.1	2.0	1.7	0.4	5.9	0	8.3	5.2	1.7
Savannah, Ga.	2.4	1.7	3.6	0.3	7.3	0	9.7	5.6	1.8

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 18 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JANUARY 15, 1948, FROM
SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100				Percent Change to Jan. 15, 1948 from		
	Jan. 15 1948	Jan. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939	Jan. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	168.8	153.3	133.3	98.6	10.1	26.6	71.2
Birmingham, Ala.	174.4	158.7	136.5	98.5	9.9	27.8	77.1
Boston, Mass.	163.1	148.7	127.9	97.1	9.7	27.5	68.0
Buffalo, N.Y.	167.4	152.7	132.6	98.5	9.6	26.2	69.9
Chicago, Ill.	171.5	153.0	130.9	98.7	12.1	31.0	73.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	171.2	152.6	132.2	97.3	12.2	29.5	76.0
Denver, Colo.	167.0	151.4	131.7	98.6	10.3	26.8	69.4
Detroit, Mich.	170.6	153.0	136.4	98.5	11.5	25.1	73.2
Houston, Texas	170.8	153.9	130.5	100.7	11.0	30.9	69.6
Indianapolis, Ind.	172.3	-	131.9	98.0	-	30.6	75.8
Kansas City, Mo.	162.4	147.7	129.4	98.6	10.0	25.5	64.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	167.6	155.3	136.1	100.5	7.9	23.1	66.8
Manchester, N. H.	172.5	-	124.7	97.8	-	28.1	76.4
New York, N. Y.	167.1	154.6	135.8	99.0	8.1	23.0	68.8
Philadelphia, Pa.	168.4	152.3	132.5	97.8	10.6	27.1	72.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	172.3	156.0	134.7	98.4	10.4	27.9	75.1
Portland, Ore.	174.4	-	140.3	100.1	-	24.3	74.2
Richmond, Va.	165.1	-	128.2	98.0	-	28.8	68.5
Savannah, Ga.	175.6	162.3	140.6	99.3	8.2	24.9	76.8

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 6 - AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
JANUARY 15, 1948

Food and Unit	Jan. 15 Average Cents	Food and Unit	Jan. 15 Average Cents
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS:		EGGS, fresh, doz.	
Cereals:			74.0
Flour, wheat, 5 lb.	54.4	FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:	
Corn flakes, 11 oz.	16.3	Fresh:	
Corn meal, lb.	11.3	Apples, lb.	11.5
Rice, lb.	20.9	Bananas, lb.	15.6
Rolled oats, 20 oz.	16.9	Oranges, size 200, doz.	37.7
Bakery products:		Beans, green, lb.	21.8
Bread, white, lb.	13.8	Cabbage, lb.	8.5
Vanilla cookies, lb.	42.4	Carrots, bunch	13.2
		Lettuce, head	16.6
MEATS:		Onions, lb.	11.8
Beef:		Potatoes, 15 lb.	84.2
Round steak, lb.	84.0	Spinach, lb.	13.7
Rib roast, lb.	69.8	Sweetpotatoes, lb.	10.2
Chuck roast, lb.	59.0	Canned:	
Hamburger, lb.	49.4	Peaches, #2-1/2 can	31.3
Veal:		Pineapple, #2-1/2 can	35.3
Cutlets, lb.	91.7	Corn, #2 can	19.5
Pork:		Peas, #2 can	15.4
Chops, lb.	72.3	Tomatoes, #2 can	16.7
Bacon, sliced, lb.	86.8	Dried:	
Ham, whole, lb.	69.0	Prunes, lb.	22.2
Salt pork, lb.	54.2	Navy beans, lb.	22.9
Lamb:		BEVERAGES:	
Leg, lb.	66.7	Coffee, lb.	50.6
Poultry:		FATS AND OILS:	
Roasting chickens, lb.	60.3	Lard, lb.	35.6
Fish:		Shortening, hydrogenated, lb.	46.8
Salmon, pink, 16 oz. can	51.8	Salad dressing, pt.	37.8
DAIRY PRODUCTS:		Oleomargarine, lb.	42.0
Butter, lb.	93.9	SUGAR AND SWEETS:	
Cheese, lb.	63.0	Sugar, lb.	9.9
Milk, fresh (delivered), qt.	21.1		
Milk, fresh (grocery), qt.	20.2		
Milk, evaporated, 14-1/2 oz. can	13.5		

* See General Explanation on page 3.

January 1948

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDEXES FOR 38 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM OCTOBER 15 AND DECEMBER 15, 1947
TO JANUARY 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to Jan. 15, 1948 from:	
	Jan. 15 1948	Dec. 15 1947	Oct. 15 1947	Dec. 15 1947	Oct. 15 1947
Atlanta, Ga.	211.9	211.1	211.1	0.4	0.4
Baltimore, Md.	220.2	217.8	211.5	1.1	4.1
Bridgeport, Conn.	204.5	199.0	195.6	2.8	4.6
Butte, Montana	204.8	195.8	195.0	4.6	5.0
Cedar Rapids, Iowa <u>1/</u>	214.6	213.0	208.7	0.8	2.8
Charleston, S. C.	206.6	203.1	201.4	1.7	2.6
Cleveland, Ohio	217.6	212.3	208.7	2.5	4.3
Columbus, Ohio	196.7	194.4	192.0	1.2	2.4
Dallas, Texas	210.3	208.2	201.6	1.0	4.3
Fall River, Mass.	202.6	199.0	195.6	1.8	3.6
Jackson, Miss. <u>1/</u>	223.3	223.2	212.6	0	5.0
Jacksonville, Fla.	216.2	216.6	214.7	-0.2	0.7
Knoxville, Tenn. <u>1/</u>	244.3	243.5	236.9	0.3	3.1
Little Rock, Ark.	211.4	211.8	200.4	-0.2	5.5
Louisville, Ky.	200.1	198.9	196.2	0.6	2.0
Memphis, Tenn.	230.7	229.7	223.6	0.4	3.2
Milwaukee, Wis.	206.4	204.6	197.6	0.9	4.5
Minneapolis, Minn.	202.6	199.3	194.6	1.7	4.1
Mobile, Ala.	219.6	216.3	209.3	1.5	4.9
Newark, N. J.	201.4	199.4	194.6	1.0	3.5
New Haven, Conn.	201.5	198.9	193.8	1.3	4.0
New Orleans, La.	226.4	222.1	219.5	1.9	3.1
Norfolk, Va.	216.5	216.1	214.3	0.2	1.0
Omaha, Nebr.	204.2	202.6	195.6	0.8	4.4
Peoria, Ill.	219.5	224.1	212.3	-2.1	3.4
Portland, Me.	199.6	195.2	190.9	2.3	4.6
Providence, R. I.	215.0	210.5	206.5	2.1	4.1
Rochester, N. Y.	202.1	200.1	192.3	1.0	5.1
St. Louis, Mo.	217.2	215.2	209.4	0.9	3.7
St. Paul, Minn.	198.6	195.9	191.0	1.4	4.0
Salt Lake City, Utah	211.3	209.7	199.4	0.8	6.0
San Francisco, Calif.	218.9	215.7	208.8	1.5	4.8
Scranton, Pa.	213.1	210.0	199.1	1.5	7.0
Seattle, Wash.	218.4	213.4	205.4	2.3	6.3
Springfield, Ill.	217.9	217.3	213.6	0.3	2.0
Washington, D. C.	209.5	207.4	200.9	1.0	4.3
Wichita, Kans. <u>1/</u>	222.4	221.6	213.8	0.4	4.0
Winston-Salem, N.C. <u>1/</u>	214.5	211.3	208.4	1.5	2.9

* See General Explanation on page 3.

1/ June 1940 equals 100.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FUEL, ELECTRICITY AND ICE PRICE INDEXES FOR 16 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM OCTOBER 15 AND DECEMBER 15, 1947
TO JANUARY 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Index Jan. 15, 1948 (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to January 15, 1948 from:					
				December 15, 1947			October 15, 1947		
	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice
Atlanta, Ga.	140.0	77.1	197.8	0	-1.4	0.5	2.3	-1.4	3.7
Baltimore, Md.	136.1	117.1	151.5	0.8	0.2	1.3	2.0	1.4	2.5
Cleveland, Ohio	136.0	104.3	166.3	0.6	0	0.9	3.3	-0.6	5.7
Jacksonville, Fla.	139.0	100.2	172.6	0	0	0	3.8	6.5	2.5
Memphis, Tenn.	128.5	77.0	157.0	1.2	0	1.6	4.4	0	5.7
Milwaukee, Wis.	134.2	98.3	158.9	1.0	-0.1	1.5	1.8	0	2.6
Minneapolis, Minn.	131.0	78.5	165.1	1.6	0	2.0	5.0	0.1	6.4
Mobile, Ala.	125.4	84.1	157.7	0	0	-0.1	2.0	-0.1	2.8
New Orleans, La.	109.8	75.1	146.8	0	0	0	0.5	0	0.8
Norfolk, Va.	139.6	93.7	175.7	1.5	0	2.2	5.4	0	7.9
Portland, Me.	145.8	99.4	168.5	3.7	-0.1	4.8	9.2	2.6	11.2
St. Louis, Mo.	129.4	94.1	160.6	0.5	0	0.9	1.8	0	2.8
San Francisco, Calif.	82.7	72.7	118.6	0	0	0	0	0	0.3
Scranton, Pa.	134.5	91.8	160.6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seattle, Wash.	119.7	88.1	146.0	0.8	0	1.2	0.9	0	1.4
Washington, D. C.	128.4	94.4	151.1	1.2	0	1.7	1.6	0	2.2

* See General Explanation on page 3.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL FOOD PRICES
FEBRUARY 15, 1948

Consumers' Prices Decline 0.8 Percent, as Retail Food Prices
Drop 2.4 Percent Between January 15 and February 15, 1948

This report combines information on the
: Consumers' Price Index and the Retail Food Price :
: Index. Final indexes showing changes to February :
: 15, 1948, for individual cities and large cities :
: combined are given herein. To save time in :
: completing these indexes, a preliminary report :
: was not issued this month. :

Retail prices of the goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities declined 0.8 percent from mid-January to mid-February, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor. Food prices dropped 2.4 percent over the month. Miscellaneous goods and services remained unchanged, while prices advanced for all other groups of living essentials.

The consumers' price index for February 15, 1948 was 167.5 percent of the 1935-39 average, 9.3 percent higher than a year ago, 25.7 percent over June 1946, and 69.9 percent above the August 1939 level.

Retail food prices, influenced by the early February break in commodity market prices, declined 2.4 percent over the month to bring the food index for large cities to 204.7 percent of the 1935-39 average. Food prices in mid-February were 12.3 percent above a year ago, 40.6 percent more than in June 1946, and 118.9 percent above August 1939. Decreases in food prices were reported for all 56 cities surveyed, ranging from 0.4 percent for New Orleans to 4.8 percent in Peoria. Twenty-eight of the 50 foods priced for the index decreased in price, 20 increased, and 2 showed no change. A drop of 6.6 percent for red meats was mainly responsible for the decrease in the food index. Pork prices dropped 10.5 percent, with the largest decrease (14.5 percent) reported for bacon. Beef and veal prices were 4.8 percent lower, and lamb 3.5 percent lower. Egg prices declined 11.4 percent. Fats and oils averaged 7.2 lower as lard dropped 17.9 percent. Sugar prices were 3.6 percent lower. Dairy products were down 0.6 percent with a decline of 3.8 percent for butter offsetting increases for cheese and milk. Prices of cereals and bakery products as a group decreased fractionally, as flour prices fell 6.4 percent while bread advanced 0.5 percent. Fresh fruits and vegetables rose 2.9 percent on the average with more than seasonal increases for green beans (29 percent), onions (28 percent), and spinach (16 percent). Sharpest decreases occurred for lettuce (24 percent), and cabbage (14 percent). Canned and dried items declined fractionally.

Apparel prices in large cities rose 1.6 percent on the average between mid-January and mid-February. Prices of men's suits advanced in all cities surveyed. Higher prices were also reported in most cities for women's spring coats, rayon dresses, slips, and nylon hose. Prices of men's and women's shoes continued to rise. Scattered increases were reported for men's broadcloth shirts. Cotton and rayon yard goods also advanced in a number of cities. The apparel index in mid-February 1948 reached 195.1 percent of the 1935-39 average, 24.1 percent over June 1946, and 94.5 percent above the August 1939 level.

Housefurnishings advanced 0.4 percent over the month. Prices increased in most cities for bedroom suites and wool rugs. Higher prices were also reported for living room and dinette suites, gas cook stoves, and electric refrigerators. Sheets were higher in a number of cities. Partially offsetting these advances were lower prices for radios and for some household appliances, particularly washing machines and vacuum cleaners because of greater availability of moderate-priced models.

The fuel, electricity and ice group rose 0.4 percent from mid-January to mid-February, reflecting higher prices for anthracite and bituminous coal, coke, kerosene and ice. Utilities were 0.1 percent higher in February than in January.

Miscellaneous goods and services on the average remained unchanged over the month. Prices for automobiles, tires, gasoline and motor oil advanced, offsetting lower prices for toilet and laundry soap and other household supplies.

Rents continued to rise slowly (up 0.1 percent) and on February 15, 1948 were 6.5 percent higher than a year ago.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities. Time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services are weighted by 1934-36 average expenditures of families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36. City data are combined for the United States with the use of population weights.

The indexes do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first 3 days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month.

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. Information on rents is obtained at least quarterly in each city.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Ore.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Tables in this release contain index numbers for the current and other specified periods and show percent changes to the current period from specified dates.

Table 1 shows indexes for all items combined, groups and subgroups for large cities combined, for the current period, a month ago, 3 months ago, a year ago, June 1946 and August 1939.

Table 2 shows percent changes to the current period from indexes given in table 1.

Table 3 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the month and over the quarter for each of 10 cities surveyed monthly.

Table 4 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the quarter for each of 8 cities surveyed quarterly.

Table 5 shows indexes for all items combined for specified periods and percent changes to the current period from specified dates for 18 cities surveyed this month.

Table 6 shows current U.S. average prices for 50 food items.

Table 7 shows food price indexes for the current period, a month ago and 3 months ago, and corresponding percent changes for 38 cities for which only food price data are collected or for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

Table 8 shows fuel price indexes for the current period and percent changes to the current period from a month ago and 3 months ago for 18 cities for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

GUIDE TO TABLES IN THIS RELEASE

Cities	Tables	Cities	Tables
U.S. AVERAGE	1, 2, 6	Memphis, Tenn.	7, 8
Atlanta, Ga.	4, 5	Milwaukee, Wisc.	4, 5
Baltimore, Md.	7, 8	Minneapolis, Minn.	7, 8
Birmingham, Ala.	3, 5	Mobile, Ala.	7, 8
Boston, Mass.	3, 5	Newark, N. J.	7
Bridgeport, Conn.	7	New Haven, Conn.	7
Buffalo, N. Y.	7, 8	New Orleans, La.	4, 5
Butte, Mont.	7	New York, N. Y.	3, 5
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	7	Norfolk, Va.	4, 5
Charleston, S. C.	7	Omaha, Nebr.	7
Chicago, Ill.	3, 5	Peoria, Ill.	7
Cincinnati, Ohio	3, 5	Philadelphia, Pa.	3, 5
Cleveland, Ohio	4, 5	Pittsburgh, Pa.	3, 5
Columbus, Ohio	7	Portland, Me.	7, 8
Dallas, Tex.	7	Portland, Ore.	7, 8
Denver, Colo.	7, 8	Providence, R. I.	7
Detroit, Mich.	3, 5	Richmond, Va.	7, 8
Fall River, Mass.	7	Rochester, N. Y.	7
Houston, Tex.	3, 5	St. Louis, Mo.	7, 8
Indianapolis, Ind.	7, 8	St. Paul, Minn.	7
Jackson, Miss.	7	Salt Lake City, Utah	7
Jacksonville, Fla.	7, 8	San Francisco, Calif.	7, 8
Kansas City, Mo.	7, 8	Savannah, Ga.	7, 3
Knoxville, Tenn.	7	Scranton, Pa.	4, 5
Little Rock, Ark.	7	Seattle, Wash.	4, 5
Los Angeles, Calif.	3, 5	Springfield, Ill.	7
Louisville, Ky.	7	Washington, D. C.	4, 5
Manchester, N. H.	7, 8	Wichita, Kans.	7
		Winston-Salem, N. C.	7

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
(1935-39 = 100.0)

Group	Feb. 15 1948	Jan. 15 1948	Nov. 15 1947	Feb. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	167.5	168.8	164.9	153.2	133.3	98.6
ALL FOODS	204.7	209.7	202.7	182.3	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	171.8	172.7	167.9	144.1	122.1	93.4
Meats, poultry & fish	224.8	237.5	227.0	196.7	134.0	95.7
Meats	218.0	233.4	223.6	191.7	120.4	95.4
Beef & veal	228.2	239.7	226.3	190.0	121.2	99.6
Pork	202.2	225.9	219.7	191.6	114.3	88.0
Lamb	223.4	231.5	227.1	204.3	139.0	98.8
Chickens	196.4	200.0	184.6	176.5	162.8	94.6
Fish	315.0	310.9	302.4	258.7	219.7	99.6
Dairy products	204.4	205.7	198.4	183.2	147.8	93.1
Eggs	189.2	213.6	224.7	169.9	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	213.0	208.3	199.6	191.7	183.5	92.4
Fresh	222.0	215.7	205.0	189.3	196.7	92.8
Canned	157.7	158.0	156.5	172.6	127.5	91.6
Dried	256.0	256.8	251.7	269.9	172.5	90.3
Beverages	204.0	201.9	194.7	182.8	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	194.2	209.3	196.4	201.3	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	176.8	183.4	183.2	178.1	136.2	95.6
APPAREL	195.1	192.1	190.2	181.5	157.2	100.3
RENT	116.0	115.9	115.2	108.9	108.5	104.3
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	130.0	129.5	126.9	117.5	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	93.2	93.1	92.5	92.2	92.1	99.0
Other fuels & ice	165.9	165.0	160.5	142.3	128.4	96.3
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	193.0	192.3	188.9	180.8	156.1	100.6
MISCELLANEOUS	146.4	146.4	143.0	137.4	127.9	100.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*, AND PERCENT
CHANGES TO FEBRUARY 15, 1948 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS

Group	Jan. 15 1948	Nov. 15 1947	Feb. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	-0.8	1.6	9.3	25.7	69.9
ALL FOODS	-2.4	1.0	12.3	40.6	118.9
Cereals & bakery products	-0.5	2.3	19.2	40.7	83.9
Meats, poultry & fish	-5.3	-1.0	14.3	67.8	134.9
Meats	-6.6	-2.5	13.7	81.1	128.5
Beef & veal	-4.8	0.8	20.1	88.3	129.1
Pork	-10.5	-8.0	5.5	76.9	129.8
Lamb	-3.5	-1.6	9.3	60.7	126.1
Chickens	-1.8	6.4	11.3	20.6	107.6
Fish	1.3	4.2	21.8	43.4	216.3
Dairy products	-0.6	3.0	11.6	38.3	119.5
Eggs	-11.4	-15.8	11.4	28.6	108.6
Fruits & vegetables	2.3	6.7	11.1	16.1	130.5
Fresh	2.9	8.3	17.3	12.9	139.2
Canned	-0.2	0.8	-8.6	23.7	72.2
Dried	-0.3	1.7	-5.2	48.4	183.5
Beverages	1.0	4.8	11.6	62.7	115.0
Fats & oils	-7.2	-1.1	-3.5	53.6	129.8
Sugar & sweets	-3.6	-3.5	-0.7	29.8	84.9
APPAREL	1.6	2.6	7.5	24.1	94.5
RENT	0.1	0.7	6.5	6.9	11.2
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	0.4	2.4	10.6	17.6	33.3
Gas & electricity	0.1	0.8	1.1	1.2	-5.9
Other fuels & ice	0.5	3.4	16.6	29.2	72.3
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	0.4	2.2	6.7	23.6	91.8
MISCELLANEOUS	0	2.4	6.6	14.5	45.8

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 10 CITIES*
SURVEYED MONTHLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM NOVEMBER 15, 1947
AND JANUARY 15, 1948 TO FEBRUARY 15, 1948 BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
February 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Birmingham, Ala.	172.8	211.1	200.1	136.0	132.0	79.6	171.1	182.2	142.9
Boston, Mass.	161.3	195.0	185.0	-	147.3	109.1	167.6	181.3	140.0
Chicago, Ill.	168.8	204.8	198.0	-	123.1	83.5	164.2	180.5	145.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	170.1	209.0	191.1	-	134.7	97.1	170.6	191.1	148.7
Detroit, Mich.	169.0	199.4	193.2	-	138.2	84.7	178.8	201.9	159.1
Houston, Texas	170.4	218.1	202.9	118.1	94.3	81.8	128.0	191.6	149.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	168.1	210.9	194.7	120.2	94.3	89.3	118.0	186.5	145.9
New York, N. Y.	166.4	206.7	194.6	-	127.6	96.5	175.2	184.6	148.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	166.6	199.3	191.5	117.3	135.1	103.0	159.7	193.6	142.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	170.1	205.4	220.0	-	133.0	103.4	183.9	196.0	144.4
Percent Changes from January 15, 1948									
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.9	-3.2	1.7	-	0.1	0	0.1	0.5	0.6
Boston, Mass.	-1.1	-2.6	0.8	-	1.2	0.2	1.5	-0.1	-0.3
Chicago, Ill.	-1.6	-3.9	2.3	-	0.1	0	0	-0.5	0.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.6	-1.9	1.2	-	0	0	0	1.4	-0.3
Detroit, Mich.	-0.9	-2.8	1.0	-	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.6	-0.2
Houston, Texas	-0.2	-1.5	1.8	-	0	0	0	0.3	-0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.3	-0.6	2.5	-	0	0	0	0.6	0.1
New York, N. Y.	-0.4	-1.4	1.3	-	0.4	0	0.7	-0.2	0.3
Philadelphia, Pa.	-1.1	-3.1	1.5	-	0	0	-0.1	1.6	-0.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-1.3	-3.5	1.6	-	0.1	0.1	0	1.2	-0.3
Percent Changes from November 15, 1947									
Birmingham, Ala.	0.7	-0.8	3.8	0.3	1.7	0	2.2	2.2	1.3
Boston, Mass.	1.9	1.4	1.6	-	6.7	1.5	8.6	2.7	1.7
Chicago, Ill.	0.3	-1.4	3.7	-	1.2	0	1.7	0.3	1.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.8	2.4	-0.1	-	2.4	0	3.8	3.7	1.2
Detroit, Mich.	1.4	1.4	1.3	-	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.6
Houston, Texas	2.8	3.8	2.1	1.2	0	-0.1	0	0.5	3.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	2.4	2.0	5.6	1.1	-0.2	0	-1.1	2.9	2.5
New York, N. Y.	1.9	1.4	2.6	-	1.4	0.3	2.3	2.2	3.5
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.5	0.9	3.1	0.9	3.6	5.3	2.8	2.4	1.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.2	0.1	0.8	-	2.9	0.1	5.9	1.9	3.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 8 CITIES*
SURVEYED QUARTERLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM NOVEMBER 15, 1947
TO FEBRUARY 15, 1948, BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
February 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Atlanta, Ga.	169.2	205.6	198.5	116.7	140.4	77.0	198.7	193.6	150.4
Cleveland, Ohio	171.6	212.5	194.5	123.6	136.4	104.3	167.0	182.9	147.3
Milwaukee, Wis.	166.9	203.4	198.0	115.5	135.0	98.2	160.3	195.9	144.0
New Orleans, La.	177.1	225.6	198.8	110.8	112.8	75.1	152.9	185.8	144.6
Norfolk, Va.	170.1	210.2	189.9	113.6	141.5	93.7	179.0	189.5	147.1
Scranton, Pa.	166.5	203.2	197.2	106.0	134.5	91.8	160.6	185.5	137.3
Seattle, Wash.	170.7	214.7	185.7	120.8	119.9	88.1	146.4	186.5	151.2
Washington, D. C.	163.2	202.0	215.0	102.5	129.8	94.4	153.4	201.0	148.4
Percent Changes from November 15, 1947									
Atlanta, Ga.	1.0	-0.6	4.2	0.5	0.3	-1.7	1.0	2.1	2.2
Cleveland, Ohio	2.8	3.1	2.2	0.6	1.7	0	2.8	6.6	3.4
Milwaukee, Wis.	1.8	1.3	3.2	0.7	1.6	-0.2	2.3	1.5	2.6
New Orleans, La.	2.3	2.5	3.0	0.4	3.0	0	4.7	-0.2	2.8
Norfolk, Va.	1.1	-0.2	4.1	0.2	2.9	0	4.1	4.1	1.2
Scranton, Pa.	0.8	0.2	2.5	0.9	0	0	0	0.8	0.8
Seattle, Wash.	2.7	3.4	2.1	1.4	1.0	0	1.5	0.9	3.1
Washington, D. C.	0.9	0	1.6	0.7	2.4	0	3.4	2.2	1.6

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 18 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES TO FEBRUARY 15, 1948 FROM
SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100				Percent Changes to Feb. 15, 1948 from		
	Feb. 15 1948	Feb. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939	Feb. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	167.5	153.2	133.3	98.6	9.3	25.7	69.9
Atlanta, Ga.	169.2	-	133.8	98.0	-	26.5	72.7
Birmingham, Ala.	172.8	158.1	136.5	98.5	9.3	26.6	75.4
Boston, Mass.	161.3	147.4	127.9	97.1	9.4	26.1	66.1
Chicago, Ill.	168.8	152.8	130.9	98.7	10.5	29.0	71.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	170.1	153.2	132.2	97.3	11.0	28.7	74.8
Cleveland, Ohio	171.6	155.9	135.7	100.0	10.1	26.5	71.6
Detroit, Mich.	169.0	153.1	136.4	98.5	10.4	23.9	71.6
Houston, Texas	170.4	154.1	130.5	100.7	10.6	30.6	69.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	168.1	155.9	136.1	100.5	7.8	23.5	67.3
Milwaukee, Wis.	166.9	-	131.2	97.0	-	27.2	72.1
New Orleans, La.	177.1	-	138.0	99.7	-	28.3	77.6
New York, N. Y.	166.4	154.2	135.8	99.0	7.9	22.5	68.1
Norfolk, Va.	170.1	-	135.2	97.8	-	25.8	73.9
Philadelphia, Pa.	166.6	151.6	132.5	97.8	9.9	25.7	70.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	170.1	156.5	134.7	98.4	8.7	26.3	72.9
Scranton, Pa.	166.5	-	132.2	96.0	-	25.9	73.4
Seattle, Wash.	170.7	155.4	137.0	100.3	9.8	24.6	70.2
Washington, D. C.	163.2	151.5	133.8	98.6	7.7	22.0	65.5

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 6 - AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
FEBRUARY 15, 1948

Food and Unit	Feb. 15 Average Cents	Food and Unit	Feb. 15 Average Cents
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS		EGGS, fresh, doz.	
Cereals:			65.6
Flour, wheat, 5 lb.	50.9	FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:	
Corn flakes, 11 oz.	16.3	Fresh:	
Corn meal, lb.	11.3	Apples, lb.	10.9
Rice, lb.	21.1	Bananas, lb.	15.6
Rolled oats, 20 oz.	16.9	Oranges, size 200 doz.	38.4
Bakery products:		Beans, green, lb.	28.0
Bread, white, lb.	13.9	Cabbage, lb.	7.3
Vanilla cookies, lb.	43.3	Carrots, bunch	14.0
		Lettuce, head	12.6
		Onions, lb.	15.1
		Potatoes, 15 lb.	88.7
		Spinach, lb.	1/ -
		Sweetpotatoes, lb.	10.7
		Canned:	
		Peaches, #2-1/2 can	31.1
		Pineapple, #2-1/2 can	35.5
		Corn, #2 can	19.5
		Peas, #2 can	15.4
		Tomatoes, #2 can	16.6
		Dried:	
		Prunes, lb.	22.0
		Navy beans, lb.	23.0
		BEVERAGES:	
		Coffee, lb.	51.2
		FATS AND OILS:	
		Lard, lb.	29.2
		Shortening, hydrogenated, lb.	45.1
		Salad dressing, pt.	38.5
		Oleomargarine, lb.	41.5
		SUGAR AND SWEETS:	
		Sugar, lb.	9.5
MEATS:			
Beef:			
Round steak, lb.	78.2		
Rib roast, lb.	65.6		
Chuck roast, lb.	56.3		
Hamburger, lb.	48.6		
Veal:			
Cutlets, lb.	90.9		
Pork:			
Chops, lb.	65.9		
Bacon, sliced, lb.	74.2		
Ham, whole, lb.	62.3		
Salt pork, lb.	49.7		
Lamb:			
Leg, lb.	64.4		
Poultry:			
Roasting chickens, lb.	59.2		
Fish:			
Salmon, pink, 16 oz. can	51.6		
DAIRY PRODUCTS:			
Butter, lb.	90.4		
Cheese, lb.	64.5		
Milk, fresh (delivered), qt.	21.2		
Milk, fresh (grocery), qt.	20.3		
Milk, evaporated, 14-1/2 oz. can	14.0		

* See General Explanation on page 3.
1/ Insufficient number of quotations.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDEXES FOR 38 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM NOVEMBER 15, 1947 AND JANUARY 15, 1948
TO FEBRUARY 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Changes to Feb. 15, 1948 from:	
	Feb. 15 1948	Jan. 15 1948	Nov. 15 1947	Jan. 15 1948	Nov. 15 1947
Baltimore, Md.	214.5	220.2	211.8	-2.6	1.3
Bridgeport, Conn.	197.5	204.5	196.5	-3.4	0.5
Buffalo, N. Y.	196.7	202.1	194.8	-2.7	1.0
Butte, Mont.	202.1	204.8	194.2	-1.3	4.1
Cedar Rapids, Iowa <u>1/</u>	208.9	214.6	209.1	-2.7	-0.1
Charleston, S. C.	200.2	206.6	198.9	-3.1	0.7
Columbus, Ohio	192.6	196.7	190.1	-2.1	1.3
Dallas, Texas	205.7	210.3	204.4	-2.2	0.6
Denver, Colo.	203.4	208.6	201.0	-2.5	1.2
Fall River, Mass.	198.4	202.6	195.0	-2.1	1.7
Indianapolis, Ind.	204.2	208.2	204.3	-1.9	0
Jackson, Miss. <u>1/</u>	221.3	223.3	213.1	-0.9	3.8
Jacksonville, Fla.	212.2	216.2	211.0	-1.9	0.6
Kansas City, Mo.	192.5	199.4	194.2	-3.5	-0.9
Knoxville, Tenn. <u>1/</u>	239.6	244.3	235.6	-1.9	1.7
Little Rock, Ark.	206.1	211.4	200.4	-2.5	2.8
Louisville, Ky.	198.0	200.1	195.8	-1.0	1.1
Manchester, N. H.	203.2	208.8	199.0	-2.7	2.1
Memphis, Tenn.	224.5	230.7	226.2	-2.7	-0.8
Minneapolis, Minn.	197.2	202.6	193.7	-2.7	1.8
Mobile, Ala.	215.5	219.6	206.8	-1.9	4.2
Newark, N. J.	200.3	201.4	197.4	-0.5	1.5
New Haven, Conn.	195.8	201.5	193.4	-2.8	1.2
Omaha, Nebr.	197.7	204.2	198.1	-3.2	-0.2
Peoria, Ill.	208.9	219.5	220.3	-4.8	-5.2
Portland, Me.	193.5	199.6	190.7	-3.1	1.5
Portland, Ore.	219.2	223.0	214.2	-1.7	2.3
Providence, R. I.	210.5	215.0	206.1	-2.1	2.1
Richmond, Va.	201.3	209.1	201.0	-3.7	0.1
Rochester, N. Y.	196.9	202.1	194.9	-2.6	1.0
St. Louis, Mo.	212.8	217.2	209.9	-2.0	1.4
St. Paul, Minn.	194.0	198.6	191.2	-2.3	1.5
Salt Lake City, Utah	207.9	211.3	202.6	-1.6	2.6
San Francisco, Calif.	215.4	218.9	214.4	-1.6	0.5
Savannah, Ga.	219.6	222.9	217.5	-1.5	1.0
Springfield, Ill.	211.4	217.9	213.2	-3.0	-0.8
Wichita, Kans. <u>1/</u>	215.1	222.4	215.1	-3.3	0
Winston-Salem, N. C. <u>1/</u>	207.9	214.5	207.1	-3.1	0.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

1/ June 1940 = 100.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FUEL, ELECTRICITY AND ICE PRICE INDEXES FOR 16 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM NOVEMBER 15, 1947 AND JANUARY 15, 1948
TO FEBRUARY 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Index Feb. 15, 1948 (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Changes to February 15, 1948 from:					
				January 15, 1948			November 15, 1947		
	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice
Baltimore, Md.	136.9	118.4	151.9	0.6	1.1	0.3	2.2	1.9	2.4
Buffalo, N. Y.	128.4	96.0	157.2	1.0	0	1.5	1.5	0	2.3
Denver, Colo.	106.8	69.2	149.9	0.2	0	0.4	1.2	1.0	1.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	144.1	86.6	177.9	0	0	0	3.0	0	3.9
Jacksonville, Fla.	139.4	100.2	173.3	0.3	0	0.4	3.6	6.5	2.1
Kansas City, Mo.	120.5	66.3	170.0	0	0	0	1.0	-0.2	1.4
Manchester, N. H.	153.6	94.6	183.0	0.1	0	0.2	5.8	0	7.3
Memphis, Tenn.	127.5	77.0	155.4	-0.8	0	-1.0	0.7	0	0.9
Minneapolis, Minn.	131.0	78.5	165.2	0	0	0.1	3.5	0.1	4.6
Mobile, Ala.	125.4	84.2	157.7	0	0.1	0	2.0	0	2.8
Portland, Me.	146.3	99.3	169.2	0.3	-0.1	0.4	5.8	-0.1	7.6
Portland, Ore.	126.3	94.7	165.0	1.0	1.7	0.5	3.1	3.2	3.0
Richmond, Va.	133.9	95.6	157.2	0	0	0	2.7	0	3.6
St. Louis, Mo.	129.4	94.1	160.6	0	0	0	0.8	0	1.1
San Francisco, Calif.	82.7	72.7	118.6	0	0	0	0	0	0.3
Savannah, Ga.	144.1	91.2	174.9	0.6	0	0.7	5.9	0	7.6

* See General Explanation on page 3.

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Date		Description		Amount		Balance	
Jan 1		Balance					
Jan 2		...					
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April 22, 1948

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL FOOD PRICES
MARCH 15, 1948

Consumers' Price Index Declines Fractionally as Retail Food
Prices Decrease 1.2 Percent Between February 15 and March 15, 1948

: This report combines information on the Consumers'
: Price Index and the Retail Food Price Index. Final
: indexes for March 15, 1948, for individual cities and
: large cities combined are given herein.

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From mid-February to mid-March, retail prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities declined 0.4 percent on the average, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. A drop of 1.2 percent in food prices more than offset a fractional advance (0.2 percent) for other living essentials. The Consumers' Price Index for March 15, 1948, was 166.9 percent of the 1935-39 average, 6.8 percent higher than a year ago, 25.2 percent over June 1946 and 69.3 percent above the August 1939 level.

Retail food prices decreased for the second consecutive month to bring the food index for large cities combined to 202.3 percent of the 1935-39 average. The decline in food prices from February to March was slightly more than is usual for the season. Final reports, based on the complete list of foods priced for the index and for all 56 cities, showed a somewhat greater decline than was indicated by a preliminary report on 20 foods in 12 cities issued a month ago. Declines contrary to seasonal patterns in some fresh fruits and vegetables that were not included in the preliminary sample, were chiefly responsible for the difference. In mid-March prices were lower in 48 of the 56 cities surveyed and remained unchanged or increased fractionally in the other 8 cities. Food prices in large cities were 3.5 percent below mid-January 1948, the month preceding the break in commodity market prices.

An average decrease of 3.5 percent over the month in prices of fresh fruits and vegetables (in contrast to a usual seasonal increase of about 1.5 percent) was mainly responsible for the drop in the food index. Prices of green beans were down 25.7 percent, spinach 22.6 percent and carrots 12.8 percent. Price changes for other items in the group varied from decreases of 10 percent for lettuce and 8.7 percent for cabbage to increases of 5.9 percent for onions and 6.8 percent for oranges. Prices of canned vegetables as a group were unchanged. Dairy product prices decreased 1.6 percent over the month, with butter down 4.4 percent and cheese 1.7 percent lower. Prices of eggs decreased 1.5 percent, fats and oils 1.3 percent and sugar 1.4 percent. Lower prices for flour, corn meal and rice reduced the cereals and bakery products index by 0.5 percent. The meat, poultry and fish group remained unchanged on the average, with lower prices for bacon, salt pork, leg of lamb and some other cuts offset by increases for pork chops, whole ham and round steak. Food prices normally decrease seasonally by about 1 percent at this time of year.

Apparel prices in large cities increased 0.6 percent on the average from mid-February to mid-March, with advances ranging from 1.5 percent in Birmingham and Houston to less than 1/2 percent in Cincinnati and Philadelphia. The March 1948 apparel index reached 196.3 percent of the 1935-39 average, 24.9 percent above June 1946 and 95.7 percent higher than in August 1939. Higher prices were reported in most cities for men's and boys' wool suits and trousers, men's business shirts, cotton undershirts and shorts, and for women's rayon and cotton street dresses, rayon slips, and shoes for the entire family. Cotton and rayon yardgoods increased in all cities.

Housefurnishings prices advanced 1 percent over the month. Higher prices were reported for furniture, bedding, gas cook stoves, washing machines and textile housefurnishings in most cities. Scattered decreases reported for radios and some appliances reflected larger supplies of lower-priced models.

The fractional increase in the fuel, electricity and ice group index resulted chiefly from higher gas rates and scattered increases in the price of kerosene. Prices of coal increased in only 4 of the 34 cities surveyed.

Prices of miscellaneous goods and services declined slightly on the average. Decreased prices reported in most cities for soaps and automobile tires offset scattered increases for some services, drugs, automobiles and other miscellaneous articles. For the most part, prices for this group of items remained unchanged over the month.

Rents continued to advance slowly (up 0.3 percent from mid-February to mid-March) to bring the rent index to 116.3 percent of the 1935-39 average. During the nine months in which the Housing and Rent Act of 1947 was in effect, rents advanced 6.5 percent.

On April 22, immediately upon completion of the calculations, the Bureau released the March 1948 Consumers' Price Index for large cities combined and for each of the 18 cities through the public press. Because of the very large number of people on the Bureau's mailing list, about a week is required to reproduce and distribute this detailed report.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities. Time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services are weighted by 1934-36 average expenditures of families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36. City data are combined for the United States with the use of population weights.

The indexes do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first 3 days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month.

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. Information on rents is obtained at least quarterly in each city.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Oreg.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Tables in this release contain index numbers for the current and other specified periods and show percent changes to the current period from specified dates.

Table 1 shows indexes for all items combined, groups and subgroups for large cities combined, for the current period, a month ago, 3 months ago, a year ago, June 1946 and August 1939.

Table 2 shows percent changes to the current period for indexes given in Table 1.

Table 3 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the month and over the quarter for each of 10 cities surveyed monthly.

Table 4 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the quarter for each of 8 cities surveyed quarterly.

Table 5 shows indexes for all items combined for specified period and percent changes to the current period from specified dates for 18 cities surveyed this month.

Table 6 shows current U.S. average prices for 50 food items.

Table 7 shows food price indexes for the current period, a month ago and 3 months ago, and corresponding percent changes for 38 cities for which only food price data are collected or for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

Table 8 shows fuel price indexes for the current period and percent changes to the current period from a month ago and 3 months ago for 18 cities for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

GUIDE TO TABLES IN THIS RELEASE

<u>Cities</u>	<u>Tables</u>	<u>Cities</u>	<u>Tables</u>
U.S. AVERAGE	1, 2, 6	Memphis, Tenn.	4, 5
Atlanta, Ga.	7, 8	Milwaukee, Wisc.	7, 8
Baltimore, Md.	4, 5	Minneapolis, Minn.	4, 5
Birmingham, Ala.	3, 5	Mobile, Ala.	4, 5
Boston, Mass.	3, 5	Newark, N. J.	7
Bridgeport, Conn.	7	New Haven, Conn.	7
Buffalo, N. Y.	7, 8	New Orleans, La.	7, 8
Butte, Mont.	7	New York, N. Y.	3, 5
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	7	Norfolk, Va.	7, 8
Charleston, S. C.	7	Omaha, Nebr.	7
Chicago, Ill.	3, 5	Peoria, Ill.	7
Cincinnati, Ohio	3, 5	Philadelphia, Pa.	3, 5
Cleveland, Ohio	7, 8	Pittsburgh, Pa.	3, 5
Columbus, Ohio	7	Portland, Me.	4, 5
Dallas, Texas	7	Portland, Oreg.	7, 8
Denver, Colo.	7, 8	Providence, R. I.	7
Detroit, Mich.	3, 5	Richmond, Va.	7, 8
Fall River, Mass.	7	Rochester, N. Y.	7
Houston, Texas	3, 5	St. Louis, Mo.	4, 5
Indianapolis, Ind.	7, 8	St. Paul, Minn.	7
Jackson, Miss.	7	Salt Lake City, Utah	7
Jacksonville, Fla.	4, 5	San Francisco, Calif.	4, 5
Kansas City, Mo.	7, 8	Savannah, Ga.	7, 8
Knoxville, Tenn.	7	Scranton, Pa.	7, 8
Little Rock, Ark.	7	Seattle, Wash.	7, 8
Los Angeles, Calif.	3, 5	Springfield, Ill.	7
Louisville, Ky.	7	Washington, D. C.	7, 8
Manchester, N. H.	7, 8	Wichita, Kans.	7
		Winston-Salem, N. C.	7

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
(1935-39 = 100.0)

Group	Mar. 15 1948	Feb. 15 1948	Dec. 15 1947	Mar. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	156.9	167.5	167.0	156.3	133.3	98.6
ALL FOODS	202.3	204.7	206.9	189.5	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	171.0	171.8	170.5	148.1	122.1	93.4
Meats, poultry & fish	224.7	224.8	227.3	207.6	134.0	95.7
Meats	218.2	218.0	223.2	204.1	120.4	95.4
Beef & veal	228.5	228.2	227.6	195.1	121.2	99.6
Pork	204.3	202.2	218.2	217.2	114.3	88.0
Lamb	216.8	223.4	221.5	209.7	139.0	98.8
Chickens	194.7	196.4	190.7	178.3	162.8	94.6
Fish	313.6	315.0	302.3	266.0	219.7	99.6
Dairy products	201.1	204.4	204.9	187.5	147.8	93.1
Eggs	186.3	189.2	236.1	174.7	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	206.9	213.0	205.3	199.6	183.5	92.4
Fresh	214.2	222.0	212.1	199.4	196.7	92.8
Canned	157.7	157.7	157.3	172.9	127.5	91.6
Dried	253.9	256.0	255.4	271.3	172.5	90.3
Beverages	204.4	204.0	198.5	186.9	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	191.7	194.2	208.2	219.1	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	174.4	176.8	183.7	178.6	136.2	95.6
APPAREL	196.3	195.1	191.2	184.3	157.2	100.3
RENT	116.3	116.0	115.4	109.0	108.5	104.3
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	130.3	130.0	127.8	117.6	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	93.8	93.2	92.6	92.2	92.1	99.0
Other fuels & ice	166.0	165.9	162.0	142.5	128.4	96.3
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	194.9	193.0	191.4	182.3	156.1	100.6
MISCELLANEOUS	146.2	146.4	144.4	138.2	127.9	100.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*, AND PERCENT
CHANGES TO MARCH 15, 1948 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS

Group	Feb. 15 1948	Dec. 15 1947	Mar. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	-0.4	-0.1	6.8	25.2	69.3
ALL FOODS	-1.2	-2.2	6.8	38.9	116.4
Cereals & bakery products	-0.5	0.3	15.5	40.0	83.1
Meats, poultry & fish	0	-1.1	8.2	67.7	134.8
Meats	0.1	-2.2	6.9	81.2	128.7
Beef & veal	0.1	0.4	17.1	88.5	129.4
Pork	1.0	-6.4	-5.9	78.7	132.2
Lamb	-3.0	-2.1	3.4	56.0	119.4
Chickens	-0.9	2.1	9.2	19.6	105.8
Fish	-0.4	3.7	17.9	42.7	214.9
Dairy products	-1.6	-1.9	7.3	36.1	116.0
Eggs	-1.5	-21.1	6.6	26.6	105.4
Fruits & vegetables	-2.9	0.8	3.7	12.8	123.9
Fresh	-3.5	1.0	7.4	8.9	130.8
Canned	0	0.3	-8.8	23.7	72.2
Dried	-0.8	-0.6	-6.4	47.2	181.2
Beverages	0.2	3.0	9.4	63.0	115.4
Fats & oils	-1.3	-7.9	-12.5	51.7	126.9
Sugar & sweets	-1.4	-5.1	-2.4	28.0	82.4
APPAREL	0.6	2.7	6.5	24.9	95.7
RENT	0.3	0.8	6.7	7.2	11.5
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	0.2	2.0	10.8	17.9	33.6
Gas & electricity	0.6	1.3	1.7	1.8	-5.3
Other fuels & ice	0.1	2.5	16.5	29.3	72.4
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	1.0	1.8	6.9	24.9	93.7
MISCELLANEOUS	-0.1	1.2	5.8	14.3	45.6

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 10 CITIES*
SURVEYED MONTHLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM DECEMBER 15, 1947 AND
FEBRUARY 15, 1948 TO MARCH 15, 1948 BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
March 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Birmingham, Ala.	172.0	207.2	203.1	-	131.8	79.6	170.7	184.1	143.2
Boston, Mass.	160.8	192.2	186.9	112.1	147.9	110.8	167.6	181.9	140.6
Chicago, Ill.	169.0	204.3	199.3	130.6	122.8	83.5	163.6	180.8	144.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	169.3	206.1	191.5	111.4	134.9	97.1	171.0	191.6	148.7
Detroit, Mich.	168.7	197.7	195.5	-	138.3	84.9	178.8	202.2	159.2
Houston, Texas	170.0	216.0	205.9	-	94.3	81.8	128.0	188.8	149.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	167.4	208.9	194.2	-	94.3	89.3	118.0	187.7	146.0
New York, N. Y.	164.3	201.2	196.2	-	128.3	97.9	175.0	184.9	146.7
Philadelphia, Pa.	165.5	196.3	191.6	-	135.1	103.0	159.7	195.9	142.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	170.1	204.8	221.4	-	132.9	103.3	183.9	198.8	144.0
Percent Changes from February 15, 1948									
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.5	-1.8	1.5	-	-0.2	0	-0.2	1.0	0.2
Boston, Mass.	-0.3	-1.4	1.0	-	0.4	1.6	0	0.3	0.4
Chicago, Ill.	0.1	-0.2	0.7	-	-0.2	0	-0.4	0.2	-0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.5	-1.4	0.2	-	0.1	0	0.2	0.3	0
Detroit, Mich.	-0.2	-0.9	1.2	-	0.1	0.2	0	0.1	0.1
Houston, Texas	-0.2	-1.0	1.5	-	0	0	0	-1.5	0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	-0.4	-0.9	-0.3	-	0	0	0	0.6	0.1
New York, N. Y.	-1.3	-2.7	0.8	-	0.5	1.5	-0.1	0.2	-0.9
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.7	-1.5	0.1	-	0	0	0	1.2	-0.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0	-0.3	0.6	-	-0.1	-0.1	0	1.4	-0.3
Percent Changes from December 15, 1947									
Birmingham, Ala.	-1.0	-4.5	3.1	-	0.7	0	0.9	1.0	1.5
Boston, Mass.	0.2	-1.8	2.0	0.6	5.1	2.9	5.8	1.8	1.3
Chicago, Ill.	-0.6	-2.9	3.1	1.1	0.2	0	0.4	-0.2	1.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.6	-2.6	1.3	0.6	2.0	0	3.2	2.1	0.5
Detroit, Mich.	-0.2	-2.1	2.0	-	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.2	0.4
Houston, Texas	0.4	-1.0	2.7	-	0	-0.1	0	-1.0	1.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.8	-1.0	3.8	-	0	0	0	2.8	2.2
New York, N. Y.	-0.4	-2.4	2.3	-	1.7	1.6	1.8	2.0	0.8
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.5	-2.7	2.6	-	3.6	5.3	2.7	1.5	0.4
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.1	-2.3	1.0	-	0.4	0	0.8	2.7	2.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 8 CITIES*
SURVEYED QUARTERLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM DECEMBER 15, 1947
TO MARCH 15, 1948, BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
March 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Baltimore, Md.	170.9	212.3	198.1	113.9	138.7	119.7	154.1	198.1	145.5
Jacksonville, Fla.	172.8	208.1	194.2	123.0	142.5	100.2	179.1	185.0	155.8
Memphis, Tenn.	172.4	219.9	209.8	126.1	128.0	77.0	156.2	181.2	136.6
Minneapolis, Minn.	167.7	198.1	207.2	123.1	131.0	78.5	165.2	195.9	150.8
Mobile, Ala.	169.9	212.2	198.5	120.9	128.6	84.1	163.3	174.8	138.1
Portland, Me.	162.7	192.4	195.1	109.9	146.6	100.3	169.2	185.8	145.8
St. Louis, Mo.	167.8	210.9	199.1	115.6	129.4	94.1	160.6	171.5	140.2
San Francisco, Calif.	171.4	215.3	191.7	113.3	82.8	72.7	120.5	165.1	156.6
Percent Changes from December 15, 1947									
Baltimore, Md.	-0.2	-2.5	3.0	1.2	2.7	2.4	3.0	0.5	1.4
Jacksonville, Fla.	-0.6	-3.9	4.4	3.8	2.5	0	3.3	0.8	-0.4
Memphis, Tenn.	-0.6	-4.3	2.2	1.3	0.8	0	1.0	3.5	1.6
Minneapolis, Minn.	0.9	-0.6	3.2	0.6	1.6	0	2.0	1.9	1.9
Mobile, Ala.	-0.2	-1.9	0.5	0.3	2.6	0	3.5	-1.3	2.2
Portland, Me.	0.4	-1.4	2.5	0.2	4.3	0.8	5.2	1.1	1.0
St. Louis, Mo.	-0.1	-2.0	3.2	0.3	0.5	0	0.9	1.8	1.2
San Francisco, Calif.	1.5	-0.2	5.6	1.0	0.1	0	1.6	2.4	2.5

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 18 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES TO MARCH 15, 1948 FROM
SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100				Percent Changes to March 15, 1948 from		
	Mar. 15 1948	Mar. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939	Mar. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	166.9	156.3	133.3	98.6	6.8	25.2	69.3
Baltimore, Md.	170.9	159.6	135.6	98.7	7.1	26.0	73.2
Birmingham, Ala.	172.0	162.0	136.5	98.5	6.2	26.0	74.6
Boston, Mass.	160.8	150.3	127.9	97.1	7.0	25.7	65.6
Chicago, Ill.	169.0	156.2	130.9	98.7	8.2	29.1	71.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	169.3	157.0	132.2	97.3	7.8	28.1	74.0
Detroit, Mich.	168.7	156.5	136.4	98.5	7.8	23.7	71.3
Houston, Texas	170.0	157.1	130.5	100.7	8.2	30.3	68.8
Jacksonville, Fla.	172.8	163.4	138.4	98.5	5.8	24.9	75.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	167.4	156.9	136.1	100.5	6.7	23.0	66.6
Memphis, Tenn.	172.4	158.8	134.5	97.8	8.6	28.2	76.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	167.7	151.6	129.4	99.7	10.6	29.6	68.2
Mobile, Ala.	169.9	159.2	132.9	98.6	6.7	27.8	72.3
New York, N. Y.	164.3	157.4	135.8	99.0	4.4	21.0	66.0
Philadelphia, Pa.	165.5	156.1	132.5	97.8	6.0	24.9	69.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	170.1	159.2	134.7	98.4	6.8	26.3	72.9
Portland, Me.	162.7	152.5	128.7	97.1	6.7	26.4	67.6
St. Louis, Mo.	167.8	155.8	131.2	98.1	7.7	27.9	71.0
San Francisco, Calif.	171.4	160.3	137.8	99.3	6.9	24.4	72.6

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 6 - AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
MARCH 15, 1948

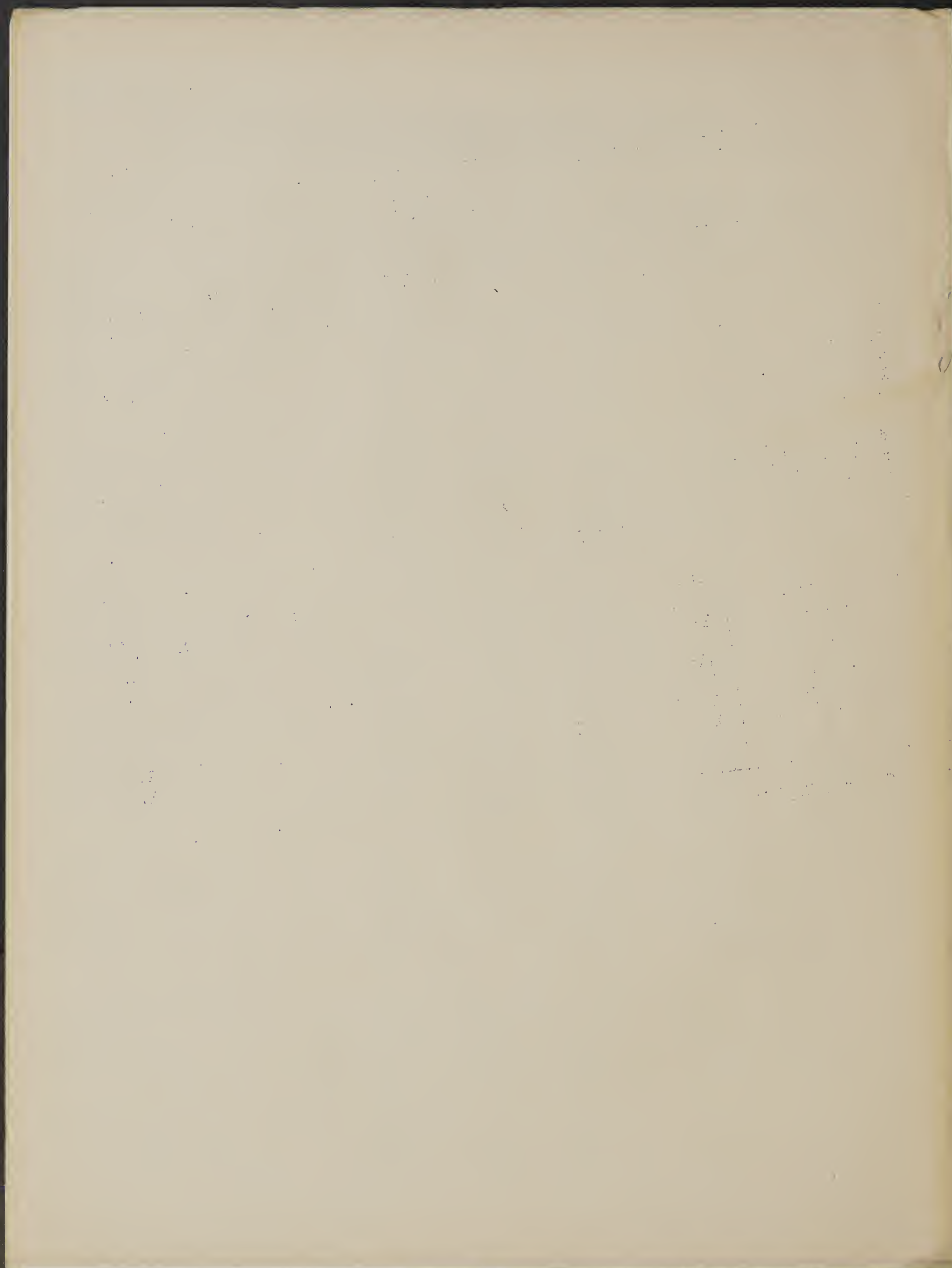
Food and Unit	Mar. 15 Average Cents	Food and Unit	Mar. 15 Average Cents
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS		EGGS, fresh, doz.	
Cereals:			64.6
Flour, wheat, 5 lb.	49.7	FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:	
Corn flakes, 11 oz.	16.4	Fresh:	
Corn meal, lb.	11.1	Apples, lb.	10.8
Rice, lb.	21.0	Bananas, lb.	15.4
Rolled oats, 20 oz.	16.9	Oranges, size 200 doz.	41.0
Bakery products:		Beans, green, lb.	20.8
Bread, white, lb.	13.9	Cabbage, lb.	6.7
Vanilla cookies, lb.	43.4	Carrots, bunch	12.2
		Lettuce, head	11.4
		Onions, lb.	16.0
		Potatoes, 15 lb.	88.7
		Spinach, lb.	12.3
		Sweetpotatoes, lb.	10.8
		Canned:	
		Peaches, #2-1/2 can	31.0
		Pineapple, #2-1/2 can	-
		Corn, #2 can	19.5
		Peas, #2 can	15.1
		Tomatoes, #2 can	16.7
		Dried:	
		Prunes, lb.	21.5
		Navy beans, lb.	23.1
		BEVERAGES:	
		Coffee, lb.	51.3
		FATS AND OILS:	
		Lard, lb.	28.6
		Shortening, hydrogenated, lb.	44.4
		Salad dressing, pt.	38.5
		Oleomargarine, lb.	40.8
		SUGAR AND SWEETS:	
		Sugar, lb.	9.4
MEATS:			
Beef:			
Round steak, lb.	79.1		
Rib roast, lb.	65.4		
Chuck roast, lb.	56.0		
Hamburger, lb.	48.9		
Veal:			
Cutlets, lb.	90.4		
Pork:			
Chops, lb.	69.9		
Bacon, sliced, lb.	70.8		
Ham, whole, lb.	62.8		
Salt pork, lb.	44.8		
Lamb:			
Leg, lb.	62.5		
Poultry:			
Roasting chickens, lb.	58.7		
Fish:			
Salmon, pink, 16 oz. can	51.7		
DAIRY PRODUCTS:			
Butter, lb.	86.4		
Cheese, lb.	63.4		
Milk, fresh (delivered), qt.	21.2		
Milk, fresh (grocery), qt.	20.3		
Milk, evaporated, 14-1/2 oz. can	14.1		

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDEXES FOR 38 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM DECEMBER 15, 1947 AND FEBRUARY 15, 1948
TO MARCH 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Changes to March 15, 1948 from:	
	Mar. 15 1948	Feb. 15 1948	Dec. 15 1947	Feb. 15 1948	Dec. 15 1947
Atlanta, Ga.	201.1	205.6	211.1	-2.2	-4.7
Bridgeport, Conn.	195.6	197.5	199.0	-1.0	-1.7
Buffalo, N. Y.	196.6	196.7	200.3	-0.1	-1.8
Butte, Mont.	200.5	202.1	195.8	-0.8	2.4
Cedar Rapids, Iowa <u>1</u> /	208.2	208.9	213.0	-0.3	-2.3
Charleston, S. C.	199.1	200.2	203.1	-0.5	-2.0
Cleveland, Ohio	209.3	212.5	212.3	-1.5	-1.4
Columbus, Ohio	190.8	192.6	194.4	-0.9	-1.9
Dallas, Texas	203.0	205.7	208.2	-1.3	-2.5
Denver, Colo.	202.3	203.4	205.6	-0.5	-1.6
Fall River, Mass.	197.2	198.4	199.0	-0.6	-0.9
Indianapolis, Ind.	203.8	204.2	208.8	-0.2	-2.4
Jackson, Miss. <u>1</u> /	214.6	221.3	223.2	-3.0	-3.9
Kansas City, Mo.	193.0	192.5	197.3	0.3	-2.2
Knoxville, Tenn. <u>1</u> /	230.0	239.6	243.5	-4.0	-5.5
Little Rock, Ark.	203.8	206.1	211.8	-1.1	-3.8
Louisville, Ky.	193.9	198.0	198.9	-2.1	-2.5
Manchester, N. H.	202.0	203.2	204.7	-0.6	-1.3
Milwaukee, Wisc.	204.6	203.4	204.6	0.6	0
Newark, N. J.	196.4	200.3	199.4	-1.9	-1.5
New Haven, Conn.	193.0	195.8	198.9	-1.4	-3.0
New Orleans, La.	224.3	225.6	222.1	-0.6	1.0
Norfolk, Va.	206.0	210.2	216.1	-2.0	-4.7
Omaha, Neb.	197.7	197.7	202.6	0	-2.4
Peoria, Ill.	205.8	208.9	224.1	-1.5	-8.2
Portland, Oreg.	220.4	219.2	219.0	0.5	0.6
Providence, R. I.	205.5	210.2	210.5	-2.4	-2.4
Richmond, Va.	197.6	201.3	207.6	-1.8	-4.8
Rochester, N. Y.	196.7	196.9	200.1	-0.1	-1.7
St. Paul, Minn.	195.3	194.0	195.9	0.7	-0.3
Salt Lake City, Utah	207.3	207.9	209.7	-0.3	-1.1
Savannah, Ga.	213.6	219.6	222.2	-2.7	-3.9
Scranton, Pa.	201.8	203.2	210.0	-0.7	-3.9
Seattle, Wash.	212.5	214.7	213.4	-1.0	-0.4
Springfield, Ill.	209.1	211.4	217.3	-1.1	-3.8
Washington, D. C.	198.9	202.0	207.4	-1.5	-4.1
Wichita, Kans. <u>1</u> /	215.9	215.1	221.6	0.4	-2.6
Winston-Salem, N. C. <u>1</u> /	202.7	207.9	211.3	-2.5	-4.1

* See General Explanation on page 3.
1/ June 1940 equals 100.



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Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

Moffatt - 532

CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL FOOD PRICES
APRIL 15, 1948

THE LIBRARY OF THE

JUN 3 1948

Consumers' Prices Resume Upward Trend in April; Food Prices
Advance 2.8 Percent Over the Month

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

: This report combines information on the Consumers' :
: Price Index and the Retail Food Price Index. Final :
: indexes for April 15, 1948, for individual cities and :
: large cities combined are given herein. :

Between mid-March and mid-April 1948, retail prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities advanced 1.4 percent on the average, and more than offset the decline that occurred from January to March. The consumers' price index for April 1948, as calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, reached an all-time high at 169.3 percent of the 1935-39 average; 8.4 percent higher than a year ago, 27.0 percent over June 1946, and 71.7 percent above the August 1939 level. Retail prices of foods advanced 2.8 percent, while prices of other goods, rents, and services averaged 0.5 percent higher over the month.

The increase of 2.8 percent in food prices brought the food index for large cities combined to 207.9 percent of the 1935-39 average, less than 1 percent below the mid-January 1948 peak. Food prices normally advance about 0.5 percent from March to April. Average increases of 6.6 percent in prices of fresh fruits and vegetables, 5.2 percent for meats and 2.3 percent for dairy products were mainly responsible for the rise in the food index. Prices of cereals and bakery products and coffee showed no change on the average. Canned and dried fruits and vegetables, fats and oils and sugar decreased fractionally. More than usual seasonal increases for cabbage (up 43.3 percent), lettuce (up 15.9 percent) and onions (up 14.2 percent) and contra-seasonal increases for green beans and carrots (up 20.0 and 11.6 percent, respectively) advanced the fresh fruit and vegetable index to a level 2.9 percent above its February 1948 record high. Oranges and spinach prices decreased over the month. Increases in the various cuts of meats ranged from 3 percent for bacon to 7.3 percent for leg of lamb; chicken was about 2 percent higher than in mid-March. Fresh fish and salt pork prices dropped. Egg prices declined less than 1 percent, despite seasonally liberal supplies. The price of butter, which usually declines at this time of year, increased 7.6 percent, more than offsetting fractional decreases in prices of milk and cheese.

Apparel prices rose fractionally (0.1 percent) from mid-March to mid-April as prices continued to advance for men's and women's shoes and men's wool suits. Higher prices were reported for women's rayon and cotton street dresses and girls' cotton dresses, while prices declined for men's percale shirts, pajamas and shorts, boys' broadcloth and polo shirts, and women's cotton housedresses.

Housefurnishings averaged 0.1 percent lower over the month. Decreased prices for electric refrigerators and radio-phonographs more than offset higher prices for Axminster rugs, sewing machines, dinette sets and bedroom suites. Prices of sheets and curtains advanced in most cities while towel prices declined.

Higher prices for bituminous coal in Chicago and Minneapolis contributed largely to the rise of 0.3 percent in the fuel, electricity, and ice index. The gas and electricity index was up 0.1 percent over the month with higher rates for gas in Cleveland, Baltimore, New York, Boston, and Portland, Oregon, and lower costs for gas in Detroit and Pittsburgh and electricity in Milwaukee. Some lower prices were reported for fuel oil.

Prices of miscellaneous goods and services rose 1.1 percent from mid-March to mid-April. Motor oil prices and hospital rates advanced in most cities. Scattered increases were reported for dentist and physician fees, barber and laundry services. Street car fares advanced in Detroit, Philadelphia, and Savannah and newspaper prices were higher in Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, and Portland, Oregon. Adult movie admissions were up in four cities. Residential telephone rates increased in two cities.

In the 11 cities surveyed this period, rents increased over-the-quarter from 0.1 percent in New York City to 1.3 percent in Denver and showed no change in Savannah and Pittsburgh. The rent index for large cities combined advanced 0.3 percent from January to April 1948.

On May 21, immediately upon completion of the calculations, the Bureau released the April 1948 Consumers' Price Index for large cities combined and for each of the 18 cities through the public press. Because of the very large number of people on the Bureau's mailing list, about a week is required to reproduce and distribute this detailed report.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities. Time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services are weighted by 1934-36 average expenditures of families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36. City data are combined for the United States with the use of population weights.

The indexes do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first 3 days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month.

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. Information on rents is obtained at least quarterly in each city.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Oreg.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Tables in this release contain index numbers for the current and other specified periods and show percent changes to the current period from specified dates.

Table 1 shows indexes for all items combined, groups and subgroups for large cities combined, for the current period, a month ago, 3 months ago, a year ago, June 1946 and August 1939.

Table 2 shows percent changes to the current period for indexes given in Table 1.

Table 3 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the month and over the quarter for each of 10 cities surveyed monthly.

Table 4 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the quarter for each of 8 cities surveyed quarterly.

Table 5 shows indexes for all items combined for specified periods and percent changes to the current period from specified dates for 18 cities surveyed this month.

Table 6 shows current U. S. average prices for 50 food items.

Table 7 shows food price indexes for the current period, a month ago and 3 months ago, and corresponding percent changes for 38 cities for which only food price data are collected or for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

Table 8 shows fuel price indexes for the current period and percent changes to the current period from a month ago and 3 months ago for 18 cities for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

GUIDE TO TABLES IN THIS RELEASE

<u>Cities</u>	<u>Tables</u>	<u>Cities</u>	<u>Tables</u>
U.S. AVERAGE	1, 2, 6	Memphis, Tenn.	7, 8
Atlanta, Ga.	7, 8	Milwaukee, Wisc.	7, 8
Baltimore, Md.	7, 8	Minneapolis, Minn.	7, 8
Birmingham, Ala.	3, 5	Mobile, Ala.	7, 8
Boston, Mass.	3, 5	Newark, N. J.	7
Bridgeport, Conn.	7	New Haven, Conn.	7
Buffalo, N. Y.	4, 5	New Orleans, La.	7, 8
Butte, Mont.	7	New York, N. Y.	3, 5
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	7	Norfolk, Va.	7, 8
Charleston, S. C.	7	Omaha, Nebr.	7
Chicago, Ill.	3, 5	Peoria, Ill.	7
Cincinnati, Ohio	3, 5	Philadelphia, Pa.	3, 5
Cleveland, Ohio	7, 8	Pittsburgh, Pa.	3, 5
Columbus, Ohio	7	Portland, Me.	7, 8
Dallas, Tex.	7	Portland, Ore.	4, 5
Denver, Colo.	4, 5	Providence, R. I.	7
Detroit, Mich.	3, 5	Richmond, Va.	4, 5
Fall River, Mass.	7	Rochester, N. Y.	7
Houston, Tex.	3, 5	St. Louis, Mo.	7, 8
Indianapolis, Ind.	4, 5	St. Paul, Minn.	7
Jackson, Miss.	7	Salt Lake City, Utah	7
Jacksonville, Fla.	7, 8	San Francisco, Calif.	7, 8
Kansas City, Mo.	4, 5	Savannah, Ga.	4, 5
Knoxville, Tenn.	7	Scranton, Pa.	7, 8
Little Rock, Ark.	7	Seattle, Wash.	7, 8
Los Angeles, Calif.	3, 5	Springfield, Ill.	7, 8
Louisville, Ky.	7	Washington, D. C.	7
Manchester, N. H.	4, 5	Wichita, Kans.	7
		Winston-Salem, N. C.	7

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
(1935-39 = 100.0)

Group	Apr. 15 1948	Mar. 15 1948	Jan. 15 1948	Apr. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	169.3	166.9	168.8	156.2	133.3	98.6
ALL FOODS	207.9	202.3	209.7	188.0	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	171.0	171.0	172.7	153.4	122.1	93.4
Meats, poultry & fish	233.8	224.7	237.5	202.6	134.0	95.7
Meats	229.5	218.2	233.4	198.7	120.4	95.4
Beef & veal	241.2	228.5	239.7	194.6	121.2	99.6
Pork	212.3	204.3	225.9	203.5	114.3	88.0
Lamb	232.6	216.8	231.5	206.5	139.0	98.8
Chickens	198.4	194.7	200.0	177.1	162.8	94.6
Fish	307.2	313.6	310.9	261.0	219.7	99.6
Dairy products	205.8	201.1	205.7	178.9	147.8	93.1
Eggs	184.7	186.3	213.6	176.3	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	217.4	206.9	208.3	200.4	183.5	92.4
Fresh	228.4	214.2	215.7	200.7	196.7	92.8
Canned	156.4	157.7	158.0	172.6	127.5	91.6
Dried	252.1	253.9	256.8	269.7	172.5	90.3
Beverages	204.4	204.4	201.9	189.5	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	191.4	191.7	209.3	227.8	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	173.6	174.4	183.4	179.3	136.2	95.6
APPAREL	196.4	196.3	192.1	184.9	157.2	100.3
RENT	116.3	116.3	115.9	109.0	108.5	104.3
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	130.7	130.3	129.5	118.4	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	93.9	93.8	93.1	92.5	92.1	99.0
Other fuels & ice	166.7	166.0	165.0	143.8	128.4	96.3
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	194.7	194.9	192.3	182.5	156.1	100.6
MISCELLANEOUS	147.8	146.2	146.4	139.2	127.9	100.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*, AND PERCENT
CHANGES TO APRIL 15, 1948 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS

Group	Mar. 15 1948	Jan. 15 1948	Apr. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	1.4	0.3	8.4	27.0	71.7
ALL FOODS	2.8	-0.9	10.6	42.8	122.4
Cereals & bakery products	a/	-1.0	11.5	40.0	83.1
Meats, poultry & fish	4.0	-1.6	15.4	74.5	144.3
Meats	5.2	-1.7	15.5	90.6	140.6
Beef & veal	5.6	0.6	23.9	99.0	142.2
Pork	3.9	-6.0	4.3	85.7	141.2
Lamb	7.3	0.5	12.6	67.3	135.4
Chickens	1.9	-0.8	12.0	21.9	109.7
Fish	-2.0	-1.2	17.7	39.8	208.4
Dairy products	2.3	0	15.0	39.2	121.1
Eggs	-0.9	-13.5	4.8	25.6	103.6
Fruits & vegetables	5.1	4.4	8.5	18.5	135.3
Fresh	6.6	5.9	13.8	16.1	146.1
Canned	-0.3	-1.0	-9.4	22.7	70.7
Dried	-0.7	-1.8	-6.5	46.1	179.2
Beverages	0	1.2	7.9	63.0	115.4
Fats & oils	-0.2	-8.6	-16.0	51.4	126.5
Sugar & sweets	-0.5	-5.3	-3.2	27.5	81.6
APPAREL	0.1	2.2	6.2	24.9	95.8
RENT	a/	0.3	6.7	7.2	11.5
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	0.3	0.9	10.4	18.3	34.1
Gas & electricity	0.1	0.9	1.5	2.0	-5.2
Other fuels & ice	0.4	1.0	15.9	29.8	73.1
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	-0.1	1.2	6.7	24.7	93.5
MISCELLANEOUS	1.1	1.0	6.2	15.6	47.2

* See General Explanation on page 3.

a/ Less than .05 percent increase.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 10 CITIES*
SURVEYED MONTHLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM MARCH 15 AND
JANUARY 15, 1948 TO APRIL 15, 1948 BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
April 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Birmingham, Ala.	172.7	207.5	204.4	-	131.8	79.6	170.7	191.8	143.0
Boston, Mass.	163.6	198.2	188.1	-	148.8	111.4	168.7	182.6	142.6
Chicago, Ill.	172.1	212.2	199.2	-	125.2	83.5	168.5	179.9	145.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	170.8	210.1	192.2	-	135.3	97.1	171.7	189.6	149.3
Detroit, Mich.	171.8	203.9	195.7	124.4	137.8	83.8	178.8	203.1	162.6
Houston, Texas	171.4	219.3	206.4	-	94.3	81.8	128.0	194.6	149.5
Los Angeles, Calif.	169.3	213.9	193.7	-	94.3	89.3	118.0	188.7	146.8
New York, N. Y.	167.0	208.6	195.5	106.6	128.3	98.4	174.1	184.2	146.7
Philadelphia, Pa.	169.3	202.8	191.3	-	135.1	103.0	159.7	198.0	147.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	171.9	209.8	221.9	115.9	132.9	103.2	183.9	199.2	143.8
Percent Changes from March 15, 1948									
Birmingham, Ala.	0.4	0.1	0.6	-	0	0	0	4.2	-0.1
Boston, Mass.	1.7	3.1	0.6	-	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.4	1.4
Chicago, Ill.	1.8	3.9	-0.1	-	2.0	0	3.0	-0.5	0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.9	1.9	0.4	-	0.3	0	0.4	-1.0	0.4
Detroit, Mich.	1.8	3.1	0.1	-	-0.4	-1.3	0	0.4	2.1
Houston, Texas	0.8	1.5	0.2	-	0	0	0	3.1	0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.1	2.4	-0.3	-	0	0	0	0.5	0.5
New York, N. Y.	1.6	3.7	-0.4	-	0	0.5	-0.5	-0.4	0
Philadelphia, Pa.	2.3	3.3	-0.2	-	0	0	0	1.1	3.9
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.1	2.4	0.2	-	0	-0.1	0	0.2	-0.1
Percent Changes from January 15, 1948									
Birmingham, Ala.	-1.0	-4.8	3.9	-	-0.1	0	-0.1	5.8	0.6
Boston, Mass.	0.3	-1.0	2.5	-	2.2	2.3	2.1	0.7	1.6
Chicago, Ill.	0.3	-0.5	2.9	-	1.8	0	2.6	-0.8	0.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.2	-1.4	1.7	-	0.4	0	0.6	0.6	0.1
Detroit, Mich.	0.7	-0.6	2.4	0.5	0.1	-0.4	0.3	1.2	2.0
Houston, Texas	0.4	-1.0	3.5	-	0	0	0	1.9	0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.0	0.8	2.0	-	0	0	0	1.8	0.8
New York, N. Y.	-0.1	-0.5	1.8	0.1	0.9	2.0	0.1	-0.4	-0.7
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.5	-1.4	1.4	-	0	0	-0.1	3.9	3.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.2	-1.4	2.5	0	0	-0.1	0	2.8	-0.7

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 8 CITIES*
SURVEYED QUARTERLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM JANUARY 15, 1948
TO APRIL 15, 1948, BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

TO APRIL 15, 1948, BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS									
City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
April 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Buffalo, N. Y.	167.2	200.2	196.8	119.7	128.4	96.0	157.2	200.9	151.4
Denver, Colo.	168.5	208.5	194.8	121.0	106.7	69.2	149.6	216.2	147.3
Indianapolis, Ind.	172.5	205.7	191.2	127.2	144.3	86.6	178.2	184.7	155.2
Kansas City, Mo.	163.3	197.9	187.8	121.0	120.7	66.6	170.1	181.5	149.0
Manchester, N. H.	172.0	204.9	190.2	110.3	151.7	94.6	180.2	196.3	143.5
Portland, Oreg.	175.8	223.2	195.9	122.5	126.4	94.9	165.0	187.3	150.5
Richmond, Va.	163.4	200.6	193.8	112.1	135.1	95.6	159.2	205.5	137.0
Savannah, Ga.	177.6	221.4	192.8	116.9	147.1	91.2	179.6	205.2	153.8
Percent Changes from January 15, 1948									
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.1	-0.9	1.5	0.5	1.0	0	1.5	0.3	-0.2
Denver, Colo.	0.9	0	3.1	1.3	0.1	0	0.2	-0.5	1.8
Indianapolis, Ind.	0.1	-1.2	2.8	0.5	0.1	0	0.2	1.3	0.1
Kansas City, Mo.	0.6	-0.8	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	1.3	2.2
Manchester, N. H.	-0.3	-1.9	2.4	0.3	-1.1	0	-1.4	0.7	2.0
Portland, Oreg.	0.8	0.1	3.1	0.3	1.1	1.9	0.5	1.6	1.0
Richmond, Va.	-1.0	-4.1	2.1	0.3	0.9	0	1.3	1.0	1.0
Savannah, Ga.	1.1	-0.7	1.3	0	2.7	0	3.4	1.0	5.2

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 18 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES TO APRIL 15, 1948 FROM
SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100				Percent Changes to April 15, 1948 from		
	Apr. 15 1948	Apr. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939	Apr. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	169.3	156.2	133.3	98.6	8.4	27.0	71.7
Birmingham, Ala.	172.7	161.7	136.5	98.5	6.8	26.5	75.3
Boston, Mass.	163.6	149.4	127.9	97.1	9.5	27.9	68.5
Buffalo, N. Y.	167.2	155.3	132.6	98.5	7.7	26.1	69.7
Chicago, Ill.	172.1	155.7	130.9	98.7	10.5	31.5	74.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	170.8	157.2	132.2	97.3	8.7	29.2	75.5
Denver, Colo.	168.5	155.8	131.7	98.6	8.2	27.9	70.9
Detroit, Mich.	171.8	156.7	136.4	98.5	9.6	26.0	74.4
Houston, Texas	171.4	158.6	130.5	100.7	8.1	31.3	70.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	172.5	-	131.9	98.0	-	30.8	76.0
Kansas City, Mo.	163.3	151.0	129.4	98.6	8.1	26.2	65.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	169.3	157.4	136.1	100.5	7.6	24.4	68.5
Manchester, N. H.	172.0	-	134.7	97.8	-	27.7	75.9
New York, N. Y.	167.0	156.8	135.8	99.0	6.5	23.0	68.7
Philadelphia, Pa.	169.3	154.9	132.5	97.8	9.3	27.8	73.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	171.9	159.0	134.7	98.4	8.1	27.6	74.7
Portland, Oreg.	175.8	-	140.3	100.1	-	25.3	75.6
Richmond, Va.	163.4	-	128.2	98.0	-	27.5	66.7
Savannah, Ga.	177.6	166.2	140.6	99.3	6.9	26.3	78.9

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 6 - AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
APRIL 15, 1948

Food and Unit	Apr. 15 Average	Food and Unit	Apr. 15 Average
	Cents		Cents
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS		EGGS, fresh, doz.	
Cereals:			64.0
Flour, wheat, 5 lb.	49.0	FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:	
Corn flakes, 11 oz.	16.6	Fresh:	
Corn meal, lb.	11.1	Apples, lb.	10.9
Rice, lb.	21.1	Bananas, lb.	15.5
Rolled oats, 20 oz.	17.1	Oranges, size 200, doz.	40.4
Bakery products:		Beans, green, lb.	25.0
Bread, white, lb.	13.9	Cabbage, lb.	9.5
Vanilla cookies, lb.	43.7	Carrots, bunch	13.7
		Lettuce, head	13.2
MEATS:		Onions, lb.	18.2
Beef:		Potatoes, 15 lb.	91.1
Round steak, lb.	84.7	Spinach, lb.	12.0
Rib roast, lb.	68.6	Sweetpotatoes, lb.	11.1
Chuck roast, lb.	59.1	Canned:	
Hamburger, lb.	51.4	Peaches, #2-1/2 can	31.0
Veal:		Pineapple, #2-1/2 can	36.2
Cutlets, lb.	93.7	Corn, #2 can	19.5
Pork:		Peas, #2 can	14.8
Chops, lb.	73.6	Tomatoes, #2 can	16.5
Bacon, sliced, lb.	72.9	Dried:	
Ham, whole, lb.	64.9	Prunes, lb.	21.2
Salt pork, lb.	43.8	Navy beans, lb.	23.1
Lamb:		BEVERAGES:	
Leg, lb.	67.1	Coffee, lb.	51.3
Poultry:		FATS AND OILS:	
Roasting chickens, lb.	59.9	Lard, lb.	28.9
Fish:		Shortening, hydrogenated, lb.	42.9
Salmon, pink, 16 oz. can	52.1	Salad, dressing, pt.	38.7
DAIRY PRODUCTS:		Oleomargarine, lb.	40.8
Butter, lb.	93.0	SUGAR AND SWEETS:	
Cheese, lb.	62.8	Sugar, lb.	9.4
Milk, fresh (delivered), qt.	21.2		
Milk, fresh (grocery), qt.	20.2		
Milk, evaporated, 14-1/2 oz. can	14.1		

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDEXES FOR 38 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM MARCH 15 AND JANUARY 15, 1948
TO APRIL 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Changes to April 15, 1948 from:	
	Apr. 15 1948	Mar. 15 1948	Jan. 15 1948	Mar. 15 1948	Jan. 15 1948
Atlanta, Ga.	204.7	201.1	211.9	1.8	-3.4
Baltimore, Md.	217.8	212.3	220.2	2.6	-1.1
Bridgeport, Conn.	201.4	195.6	204.5	3.0	-1.5
Butte, Mont.	201.3	200.5	204.8	0.4	-1.7
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 1/	217.0	208.2	214.6	4.2	1.1
Charleston, S. C.	204.8	199.1	206.6	2.9	-0.9
Cleveland, Ohio	213.0	209.3	217.6	1.8	-2.1
Columbus, Ohio	193.1	190.8	196.7	1.2	-1.8
Dallas, Texas	206.7	203.0	210.3	1.8	-1.7
Fall River, Mass.	201.2	197.2	202.6	2.0	-0.7
Jackson, Miss. 1/	218.3	214.6	223.3	1.7	-2.2
Jacksonville, Fla.	214.7	208.1	216.2	3.2	-0.7
Knoxville, Tenn. 1/	233.9	230.0	244.3	1.7	-4.3
Little Rock, Ark.	206.4	203.8	211.4	1.3	-2.4
Louisville, Ky.	198.2	193.9	200.1	2.2	-0.9
Memphis, Tenn.	222.2	219.9	230.7	1.0	-3.7
Milwaukee, Wis.	210.9	204.6	206.4	3.1	2.2
Minneapolis, Minn.	203.0	198.1	202.6	2.5	0.2
Mobile, Ala.	216.3	212.2	219.6	1.9	-1.5
Newark, N. J.	203.0	196.4	201.4	3.4	0.8
New Haven, Conn.	197.7	193.0	201.5	2.4	-1.9
New Orleans, La.	228.7	224.3	226.4	2.0	1.0
Norfolk, Va.	210.5	206.0	216.5	2.2	-2.8
Omaha, Nebr.	202.5	197.7	204.2	2.4	-0.8
Peoria, Ill.	217.0	205.8	219.5	5.4	-1.1
Portland, Me.	197.0	192.4	199.6	2.4	-1.3
Providence, R. I.	213.1	205.5	215.0	3.7	-0.9
Rochester, N. Y.	200.8	196.7	202.1	2.1	-0.6
St. Louis, Mo.	213.6	210.9	217.2	1.3	-1.7
St. Paul, Minn.	200.5	195.3	198.6	2.7	1.0
Salt Lake City, Utah	212.9	207.3	211.3	2.7	0.8
San Francisco, Calif.	219.5	215.3	218.9	2.0	0.3
Scranton, Pa.	208.9	201.8	213.1	3.5	-2.0
Seattle, Wash.	215.5	212.5	218.4	1.4	-1.3
Springfield, Ill.	212.6	209.1	217.9	1.7	-2.4
Washington, D. C.	205.1	198.9	209.5	3.1	-2.1
Wichita, Kans. 1/	220.3	215.9	222.4	2.0	-0.9
Winston-Salem, N. C. 1/	200.0	202.7	214.5	1.6	-4.0

* See General Explanation on page 3.

1/ June 1940 = 100.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FUEL, ELECTRICITY AND ICE PRICE INDEXES FOR 16 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM JANUARY 15 AND MARCH 15, 1948
TO APRIL 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Index Apr. 15, 1948 (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to April 15, 1948 from					
				March 15, 1948			January 15, 1948		
	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice
Atlanta, Ga.	140.4	76.9	108.7	0	-0.1	0	0.3	-0.3	0.5
Baltimore, Md.	139.2	120.8	154.0	0.4	0.9	-0.1	2.3	3.2	1.7
Cleveland, Ohio	137.0	105.6	167.0	0.4	1.2	0	0.7	1.2	0.4
Jacksonville, Fla.	142.5	100.2	179.1	0	0	0	2.5	0	3.8
Memphis, Tenn.	128.0	77.0	156.2	0	0	0	-0.4	0	-0.5
Milwaukee, Wisc.	136.3	101.6	160.3	-0.7	-2.0	0	1.6	3.4	0.9
Minneapolis, Minn.	133.4	78.5	169.1	1.8	0	2.4	1.3	0	2.4
Mobile, Ala.	128.6	84.1	163.3	0	0	0	2.6	0	3.6
New Orleans, La.	112.8	75.1	152.9	0	0	0	2.7	0	4.2
Norfolk, Va.	143.3	97.8	179.0	0	0	0	2.7	4.4	1.9
Portland, Me.	143.7	100.3	164.9	-2.0	0	-2.5	-1.4	0.9	-2.1
St. Louis, Mo.	129.4	94.1	160.6	0	0	0	0	0	0
San Francisco, Cal.	82.8	72.7	120.5	0	0	0	0.1	0	1.6
Scranton, Pa.	134.5	91.8	160.6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seattle, Wash.	121.4	91.5	146.4	0	0	0	1.4	3.9	0.3
Washington, D. C.	129.8	94.4	153.4	0	0	0	1.1	0	1.5

* See General Explanation on page 3.

THE HISTORY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

1630	1631	1632	1633	1634	1635	1636	1637	1638	1639	1640	1641	1642	1643	1644	1645	1646	1647	1648	1649	1650	1651	1652	1653	1654	1655	1656	1657	1658	1659	1660	1661	1662	1663	1664	1665	1666	1667	1668	1669	1670	1671	1672	1673	1674	1675	1676	1677	1678	1679	1680	1681	1682	1683	1684	1685	1686	1687	1688	1689	1690	1691	1692	1693	1694	1695	1696	1697	1698	1699	1700																													
1701	1702	1703	1704	1705	1706	1707	1708	1709	1710	1711	1712	1713	1714	1715	1716	1717	1718	1719	1720	1721	1722	1723	1724	1725	1726	1727	1728	1729	1730	1731	1732	1733	1734	1735	1736	1737	1738	1739	1740	1741	1742	1743	1744	1745	1746	1747	1748	1749	1750	1751	1752	1753	1754	1755	1756	1757	1758	1759	1760	1761	1762	1763	1764	1765	1766	1767	1768	1769	1770	1771	1772	1773	1774	1775	1776	1777	1778	1779	1780	1781	1782	1783	1784	1785	1786	1787	1788	1789	1790	1791	1792	1793	1794	1795	1796	1797	1798	1799	1800

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL FOOD PRICES
May 15, 1948

Consumers' Price Index Continues Advance to New High as Retail Food Prices
Increase 1.4 Percent Between April 15 and May 15, 1948

: This report combines information on the Consumers':
: Price Index and the Retail Food Price Index. Final :
: indexes for May 15, 1948, for individual cities and :
: large cities combined are given herein. :

Retail prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities advanced 0.7 percent between mid-April and mid-May to a new high. The consumers' price index for May 1948, as calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, was 170.5 percent of the 1935-39 average; 9.3 percent higher than a year ago, 27.9 percent above June 1946, and 72.9 percent over the August 1939 level. Retail prices of foods increased 1.4 percent on the average, while prices of other goods, rents and services averaged 0.1 percent higher over the month.

The continued rise in food prices brought the May 1948 retail food price index to 210.9 percent of the 1935-39 average, 0.6 percent above the peak reached in January 1948, prior to the break in commodity market prices. The food index is now 12.4 percent above a year ago, 44.8 percent over June 1946, and 125.6 percent higher than in August 1939. The average increase from mid-April to mid-May of 5.4 percent for meats was mainly responsible for the 1.4 percent rise in the food index. Record high average prices were reported for beef, veal, lamb and chicken, with price quotations ranging as high as \$1.00 for beef rib roast, \$1.39 for round steak, \$1.50 for veal cutlets and \$1.10 for leg of lamb. Prices of fats and oils rose contras- seasonally 2.7 percent, with higher prices reported for all items in the group. Prices of fresh fruits and vegetables, except for lettuce and onions, followed usual seasonal trends as the group advanced 0.4 percent. The average price of lettuce was 25.5 percent higher, while a plentiful supply brought the price of onions down 34 percent. Cereals and bakery products, coffee, and egg prices advanced fractionally, while sugar decreased. Dairy products as a group declined 0.5 percent, lower prices for fresh milk and butter more than offsetting increased prices for cheese and canned milk. Food prices advanced over the month in 52 of the 56 cities surveyed. Increases ranged from 0.3 percent in Mobile to 3.8 percent in Buffalo. Fractional decreases were recorded in Houston, Jackson and Los Angeles. The food index for New Orleans dropped 2.5 percent over the month.

The index of apparel prices continued to rise as prices advanced 0.6 per- cent on the average from mid-April to mid-May. Higher prices were recorded for women's cotton street dresses, men's wool suits, and some articles of children's clothing. Prices were lower on the average for men's broadcloth shirts, pajamas, and percale yard goods. Charges for dry cleaning advanced in most cities surveyed.

The housefurnishings group index decreased for the second consecutive month, averaging 0.6 percent lower from April to May. Prices of radio-phonographs, vacuum cleaners, and electric refrigerators decreased generally and more than offset scattered increases reported for furniture. Lower prices were reported for curtains; and the effect of May white sales was reflected in lower prices for other textile housefurnishings. Prices of miscellaneous goods and services averaged 0.2 percent lower over the month, due chiefly to decreased prices for toilet and laundry soaps.

Mainly as a result of widespread increases in the price of bituminous coal and anthracite, the group for fuels, electricity and ice rose 0.8 percent from April 15 to May 15. With the end of the heating season the price of domestic fuel oil decreased in a number of cities. Adjustments for higher fuel prices caused slight increases in the cost of electricity in Boston and New York.

With landlords and tenants again permitted to agree to rent increases up to 15 percent, as provided by the Housing and Rent Act of 1948, residential rents in large cities averaged 0.3 percent higher from mid-April to mid-May. In the 12 cities surveyed this period, rents increased over-the-quarter from 0.2 percent in Cleveland to 1.2 percent in Houston. The May 1948 rent index for large cities combined was 116.7 percent of the 1935-39 average.

On June 23, immediately upon completion of the calculations, the Bureau released the May 1948 Consumers' Price Index for large cities combined and for each of the 18 cities through the public press. Because of the very large number of people on the Bureau's mailing list, about a week is required to reproduce and distribute this detailed report.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities. Time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services are weighted by 1934-36 average expenditures of families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36. City data are combined for the United States with the use of population weights.

The indexes do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first 3 days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month.

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. Information on rents is obtained at least quarterly in each city.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Oreg.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Tables in this release contain index numbers for the current and other specified periods and show percent changes to the current period from specified dates.

Table 1 shows indexes for all items combined, groups and subgroups for large cities combined, for the current period, a month ago, 3 months ago, a year ago, June 1946 and August 1939.

Table 2 shows percent changes to the current period for indexes given in Table 1.

Table 3 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the month and over the quarter for each of 10 cities surveyed monthly.

Table 4 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the quarter for each of 8 cities surveyed quarterly.

Table 5 shows indexes for all items combined for specified periods and percent changes to the current period from specified dates for 18 cities surveyed this month.

Table 6 shows current U. S. average prices for 50 food items.

Table 7 shows food price indexes for the current period, a month ago and 3 months ago, and corresponding percent changes for 38 cities for which only food price data are collected or for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

Table 8 shows fuel price indexes for the current period and percent changes to the current period from a month ago and 3 months ago for 18 cities for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
(1935-39 = 100.0)

Group	May 15 1948	Apr. 15 1948	Feb. 15 1948	May 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	170.5	169.3	167.5	156.0	133.3	98.6
ALL FOODS	210.9	207.9	204.7	187.6	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	171.1	171.0	171.8	154.2	122.1	93.4
Meats, poultry & fish	244.2	233.8	224.8	203.9	134.0	95.7
Meats	242.0	229.5	218.0	200.6	120.4	95.4
Beef & veal	255.8	241.2	228.2	197.1	121.2	99.6
Pork	219.1	212.3	202.2	204.2	114.3	88.0
Lamb	253.5	232.6	223.4	209.6	139.0	98.8
Chickens	202.1	198.4	196.4	179.6	162.8	94.6
Fish	305.0	307.2	315.0	255.1	219.7	99.6
Dairy products	204.8	205.8	204.4	171.5	147.8	93.1
Eggs	184.9	184.7	189.2	178.9	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	218.0	217.4	213.0	207.0	183.5	92.4
Fresh	229.4	228.4	222.0	209.5	196.7	92.8
Canned	156.4	156.4	157.7	172.3	127.5	91.6
Dried	250.0	252.1	256.0	268.1	172.5	90.3
Beverages	204.6	204.4	204.0	188.9	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	196.6	191.4	194.2	200.5	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	173.0	173.6	176.8	179.3	136.2	95.6
APPAREL	197.5	196.4	195.1	185.0	157.2	100.3
RENT	116.7	116.3	116.0	109.2	108.5	104.3
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	131.8	130.7	130.0	117.7	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	94.1	93.9	93.2	92.4	92.1	99.0
Other fuels & ice	168.6	166.7	165.9	142.4	128.4	96.3
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	193.6	194.7	193.0	181.9	156.1	100.6
MISCELLANEOUS	147.5	147.8	146.4	139.0	127.9	100.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*, AND PERCENT
CHANGES TO MAY 15, 1948 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS

Group	Apr. 15 1948	Feb. 15 1948	May 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	0.7	1.8	9.3	27.9	72.9
ALL FOODS	1.4	3.2	12.4	44.8	125.6
Cereals & bakery products	0.1	-0.4	11.0	40.1	83.2
Meats, poultry & fish	4.4	8.6	19.8	82.2	155.2
Meats	5.4	11.0	20.6	101.0	153.7
Beef & veal	6.1	12.1	29.8	111.1	156.8
Pork	3.2	8.4	7.3	91.7	149.0
Lamb	9.0	13.5	20.9	82.4	156.6
Chickens	1.9	2.9	12.5	24.1	113.6
Fish	-0.7	-3.2	19.6	38.8	206.2
Dairy products	-0.5	0.2	19.4	38.6	120.0
Eggs	0.1	-2.3	3.4	25.7	103.9
Fruits & vegetables	0.3	2.3	5.3	18.8	135.9
Fresh	0.4	3.3	9.5	16.6	147.2
Canned	0	-0.8	-9.2	22.7	70.7
Dried	-0.8	-2.3	-6.8	44.9	176.9
Beverages	0.1	0.3	8.3	63.2	115.6
Fats & oils	2.7	1.2	-1.9	55.5	132.7
Sugar & sweets	-0.3	-2.1	-3.5	27.0	81.0
APPAREL	0.6	1.2	6.8	25.6	96.9
RENT	0.3	0.6	6.9	7.6	11.9
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	0.8	1.4	12.0	19.3	35.2
Gas & electricity	0.2	1.0	1.8	2.2	-4.9
Other fuels & ice	1.1	1.6	18.4	31.3	75.1
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	-0.6	0.3	6.4	24.0	92.4
MISCELLANEOUS	-0.2	0.8	6.1	15.3	46.9

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 10 CITIES*
SURVEYED MONTHLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM APRIL 15 AND
FEBRUARY 15, 1948 TO MAY 15, 1948 BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
May 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Birmingham, Ala.	173.7	209.6	204.5	137.5	131.8	79.6	170.7	191.1	143.3
Boston, Mass.	164.1	199.2	189.2	-	148.1	111.6	167.5	182.8	143.0
Chicago, Ill.	174.9	218.4	199.2	-	125.7	83.5	169.5	178.8	146.9
Cincinnati, Ohio	172.3	213.5	193.1	-	137.6	95.1	178.1	189.8	149.0
Detroit, Mich.	173.2	208.0	195.0	-	141.8	83.9	185.7	203.4	162.2
Houston, Texas	171.5	218.1	208.9	119.5	94.3	81.8	128.0	195.4	149.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	169.1	212.6	195.8	120.9	94.3	89.3	118.0	187.5	146.5
New York, N. Y.	167.5	210.0	195.9	-	129.0	99.9	173.7	182.7	146.3
Philadelphia, Pa.	170.4	205.0	193.8	118.1	135.1	103.0	159.7	196.7	147.4
Pittsburgh, Pa.	173.5	213.7	222.4	-	134.4	103.3	187.8	200.9	143.9
Percent Changes from April 15, 1948									
Birmingham, Ala.	0.6	1.0	0	-	0	0	0	-0.4	0.2
Boston, Mass.	0.3	0.5	0.6	-	-0.5	0.2	-0.7	0.1	0.3
Chicago, Ill.	1.6	2.9	0	-	0.4	0	0.6	-0.6	1.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.9	1.6	0.5	-	1.7	-2.1	3.7	0.1	-0.2
Detroit, Mich.	0.8	2.0	-0.4	-	2.9	0.1	3.9	0.1	-0.2
Houston, Texas	0.1	-0.5	1.2	-	0	0	0	0.4	-0.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	-0.1	-0.6	1.1	-	0	0	0	-0.6	-0.2
New York, N. Y.	0.3	0.7	0.2	-	0.5	1.5	-0.2	-0.8	-0.3
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.6	1.1	1.3	-	0	0	0	-0.7	-0.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.9	1.9	0.2	-	1.1	0.1	2.1	0.9	0.1
Percent Changes from February 15, 1948									
Birmingham, Ala.	9.5	-0.7	2.2	1.1	-0.2	0	-0.2	4.9	0.3
Boston, Mass.	1.7	2.2	2.3	-	0.5	2.3	-0.1	0.8	2.1
Chicago, Ill.	3.6	6.6	0.6	-	2.1	0	3.2	-0.9	1.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.3	2.2	1.0	-	2.2	-2.1	4.4	-0.7	0.2
Detroit, Mich.	2.5	4.3	0.9	-	2.6	-0.9	3.9	0.7	1.9
Houston, Texas	0.6	0	3.0	1.2	0	0	0	2.0	0
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.6	0	0	0	0.5	0.4
New York, N. Y.	0.7	1.6	0.7	-	1.1	3.5	-0.9	-1.0	-1.2
Philadelphia, Pa.	2.3	2.9	1.2	0.7	0	0	0	1.6	3.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	2.0	4.0	1.1	-	1.1	-0.1	2.1	2.5	-0.3

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 8 CITIES*
SURVEYED QUARTERLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM FEBRUARY 15, 1948
TO MAY 15, 1948, BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
May 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Atlanta, Ga.	170.8	207.9	200.4	117.5	144.3	76.9	206.2	191.4	151.6
Cleveland, Ohio	173.7	218.0	195.8	123.9	139.3	105.6	171.5	180.6	147.2
Milwaukee, Wisc.	171.1	213.7	200.0	116.0	139.4	101.6	165.4	194.0	144.8
New Orleans, La.	176.5	223.0	205.5	111.2	112.8	75.1	152.9	188.2	142.9
Norfolk, Va.	171.9	213.3	194.4	114.1	143.3	97.8	179.1	189.7	147.2
Scranton, Pa.	170.2	212.2	202.1	106.7	134.5	91.8	160.6	180.8	136.3
Seattle, Wash.	174.3	221.4	191.8	121.3	122.1	91.5	147.6	189.9	152.0
Washington, D.C.	166.7	209.7	220.1	103.0	130.9	94.4	155.1	204.5	149.1
Percent Changes from February 15, 1948									
Atlanta, Ga.	0.9	1.1	1.0	0.7	2.8	-0.1	3.8	-1.1	0.8
Cleveland, Ohio	1.2	2.6	0.7	0.2	2.1	1.2	2.7	-1.3	-0.1
Milwaukee, Wisc.	2.5	5.1	1.0	0.4	3.3	3.5	3.2	-1.0	0.6
New Orleans, La.	-0.3	-1.2	3.4	0.4	0	0	0	1.3	-1.2
Norfolk, Va.	1.1	1.5	2.4	0.4	1.3	4.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
Scranton, Pa.	2.2	4.4	2.5	0.7	0	0	0	-2.5	-0.7
Seattle, Wash.	2.1	3.1	3.3	0.4	1.8	3.9	0.8	1.8	0.5
Washington, D.C.	2.1	3.8	2.4	0.5	0.8	0	1.1	1.7	0.5

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 18 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES TO MAY 15, 1948 FROM
SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

A

City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100				Percent Change to May 1948 from		
	May 15	May 15	June 15	Aug. 15	May 15	June 15	Aug. 15
	1948	1947	1946	1939	1947	1946	1939
AVERAGE	170.5	156.0	133.3	98.6	9.3	27.9	72.9
Atlanta, Ga.	170.8	--	133.8	98.0	--	27.7	74.3
Birmingham, Ala.	173.7	160.7	136.5	98.5	8.1	27.3	76.3
Boston, Mass.	164.1	148.6	127.9	97.1	10.4	28.3	69.0
Chicago, Ill.	174.9	156.8	130.9	98.7	11.5	33.6	77.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	172.3	156.8	132.2	97.3	9.9	30.3	77.1
Cleveland, Ohio	173.7	159.0	135.7	100.0	9.2	28.0	73.7
Detroit, Mich.	173.2	156.8	136.4	98.5	10.5	27.0	75.8
Houston, Texas	171.5	157.6	130.5	100.7	8.8	31.4	70.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	169.1	157.6	136.1	100.5	7.3	24.2	68.3
Milwaukee, Wisc.	171.1	--	131.2	97.0	--	30.4	76.4
New Orleans, La.	176.5	--	138.0	99.7	--	27.9	77.0
New York, N.Y.	167.5	155.6	135.8	99.0	7.6	23.3	69.2
Norfolk, Va.	171.9	--	135.2	97.8	--	27.1	75.8
Philadelphia, Pa.	170.4	155.1	132.5	97.8	9.9	28.6	74.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	173.5	159.6	134.7	98.4	8.7	28.8	76.3
Scranton, Pa.	170.2	--	132.2	96.0	--	28.7	77.3
Seattle, Wash.	174.3	158.5	137.0	100.3	10.0	27.2	73.8
Washington, D.C.	166.7	154.6	133.8	98.6	7.8	24.6	69.1

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 6 - AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
MAY 15, 1948

Food and Unit	May 15 Average	Food and Unit	May 15 Average
	Cents		Cents
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS		EGGS, fresh, doz.	64.1
Cereals		FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:	
Flour, wheat, 5 lb.	48.9	Fresh:	
Corn flakes, 11 oz.	16.6	Apples, lb.	12.0
Corn meal, lb.	11.1	Bananas, lb.	15.6
Rice, lb.	21.1	Oranges, size 200, doz.	42.2
Rolled oats, 20 oz.	17.1	Beans, green, lb.	24.9
Bakery products:		Cabbage, lb.	7.7
Bread, white, lb.	13.9	Carrots, bunch	16.7
Vanilla cookies, lb.	43.6	Lettuce, head	16.5
		Onions, lb.	12.0
MEATS:		Potatoes, 15 lb.	94.0
Beef:		Spinach, lb.	11.4
Round steak, lb.	90.3	Sweetpotatoes, lb.	11.7
Rib roast, lb.	71.9	Canned:	
Chuck roast, lb.	63.6	Peaches, #2½ can	31.0
Hamburger, lb.	55.2	Pineapple, #2½ can	36.3
Veal:		Corn, #2 can	19.6
Cutlets, lb.	97.9	Peas, #2 can	14.7
Pork:		Tomatoes, #2 can	16.5
Chops, lb.	77.0	Dried:	
Bacon, sliced, lb.	75.9	Prunes, lb.	21.1
Ham, whole, lb.	65.7	Navy beans, lb.	22.9
Salt pork, lb.	42.5		
Lamb:		BEVERAGES:	
Leg, lb.	73.1	Coffee, lb.	51.3
Poultry:			
Roasting chickens, lb.	61.0	FATS AND OILS:	
Fish:		Lard, lb.	29.6
Salmon, pink, 16 oz. can	52.4	Shortening, hydrogenated, lb.	43.8
DAIRY PRODUCTS:		Salad dressing, pt.	39.8
Butter, lb.	92.5	Oleomargarine, lb.	42.4
Cheese, lb.	64.5	SUGAR AND SWEETS:	
Milk, fresh (delivered), qt.	20.8	Sugar, lb.	9.3
Milk, fresh (grocery), qt.	20.1		
Milk, evaporated, 14½ oz. can	14.4		

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDEXES FOR 38 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM APRIL 15 AND FEBRUARY 15, 1948
TO MAY 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to May 15, 1948 from:	
	May 15 1948	Apr. 15 1948	Feb. 15 1948	Apr. 15 1948	Feb. 15 1948
Baltimore, Md.	221.6	217.8	214.5	1.7	3.3
Bridgeport, Conn.	207.5	201.4	197.5	3.0	5.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	207.9	200.2	196.7	3.8	5.7
Butte, Mont.	207.4	201.3	202.1	3.0	2.6
Cedar Rapids, Iowa <u>1/</u>	219.7	217.0	208.9	1.2	5.2
Charleston, S. C.	206.7	204.8	200.2	0.9	3.2
Columbus, Ohio	195.3	193.1	192.6	1.1	1.4
Dallas, Texas	210.5	206.7	205.7	1.8	2.3
Denver, Colo.	213.3	208.5	203.4	2.3	4.9
Fall River, Mass.	207.2	201.2	198.4	3.0	4.4
Indianapolis, Ind.	208.0	205.7	204.2	1.1	1.9
Jackson, Miss. <u>1/</u>	218.0	218.3	221.3	-0.1	-1.5
Jacksonville, Fla.	217.3	214.7	212.2	1.2	2.4
Kansas City, Mo.	202.2	197.9	192.5	2.2	5.0
Knoxville, Tenn. <u>1/</u>	236.2	233.9	239.6	1.0	-1.4
Little Rock, Ark.	209.2	206.4	206.1	1.4	1.5
Louisville, Ky.	201.6	198.2	198.0	1.7	1.8
Manchester, N. H.	208.9	204.9	203.2	2.0	2.8
Memphis, Tenn.	223.2	222.2	224.5	0.5	-0.6
Minneapolis, Minn.	206.0	203.0	197.2	1.5	4.5
Mobile, Ala.	217.0	216.3	215.5	0.3	0.7
Newark, N. J.	204.7	203.0	200.3	0.8	2.2
New Haven, Conn.	201.2	197.7	195.8	1.8	2.8
Omaha, Nebr.	207.2	202.5	197.7	2.3	4.8
Peoria, Ill.	223.8	217.0	208.9	3.1	7.1
Portland, Me.	199.4	197.0	193.5	1.2	3.0
Portland, Ore.	229.5	223.2	219.2	2.8	4.7
Providence, R. I.	217.9	213.1	210.5	2.3	3.5
Richmond, Va.	203.4	200.6	201.3	1.4	1.0
Rochester, N. Y.	205.1	200.8	196.9	2.1	4.2
St. Louis, Mo.	218.2	213.6	212.8	2.2	2.5
St. Paul, Minn.	203.5	200.5	194.0	1.5	4.9
Salt Lake City, Utah	216.8	212.9	207.9	1.8	4.3
San Francisco, Calif.	223.4	219.5	215.4	1.8	3.7
Savannah, Ga.	223.3	221.4	219.6	0.9	1.7
Springfield, Ill.	219.3	212.6	211.4	3.2	3.7
Wichita, Kans. <u>1/</u>	225.3	220.3	215.1	2.3	4.7
Winston Salem, N. C. <u>1/</u>	208.4	206.0	207.9	1.2	0.2

* See General Explanation on page 3.

1/ June 1940 = 100.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FUEL, ELECTRICITY AND ICE PRICE INDEXES FOR 16 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM FEBRUARY 15 AND APRIL 15, 1948
TO MAY 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Index May 15, 1948 (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to May 15, 1948 from					
				April 15, 1948			February 15, 1948		
	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice
Baltimore, Md.	139.6	121.1	154.6	0.3	0.2	0.4	2.0	2.3	1.8
Buffalo, N. Y.	130.7	96.0	161.5	1.8	0	2.7	1.8	0	2.7
Denver, Colo.	106.7	69.2	149.6	0	0	0	-0.1	0	-0.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	148.5	86.6	185.0	2.9	0	3.8	3.1	0	4.0
Jacksonville, Fla.	142.5	100.2	179.1	0	0	0	2.2	0	3.3
Kansas City, Mo.	120.7	66.5	170.3	0	-0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2
Manchester, N. H.	150.9	94.6	179.1	-0.5	0	-0.6	-1.8	0	-2.1
Memphis, Tenn.	128.0	77.0	156.2	0	0	0	0.4	0	0.5
Minneapolis, Minn.	135.3	78.5	172.2	1.4	0	1.8	3.3	0	4.2
Mobile, Ala.	128.6	84.0	163.3	0	-0.1	0	2.6	-0.2	3.6
Portland, Me.	143.6	100.5	164.6	-0.1	0.2	-0.2	-1.8	1.2	-2.7
Portland, Ore.	126.7	95.5	165.0	0.2	0.6	0	0.3	0.8	0
Richmond, Va.	137.7	95.6	163.4	1.9	0	2.6	2.8	0	3.9
St. Louis, Mo.	133.5	94.1	168.3	3.2	0	4.8	3.2	0	4.8
San Francisco, Cal.	82.8	72.7	120.5	0	0	0	0.1	0	1.6
Savannah, Ga.	147.1	91.2	179.6	0	0	0	2.1	0	2.7

* See General Explanation on page 3.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

Moffatt - 532

CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL FOOD PRICES
June 15, 1948

Consumers' Price Index Continues Advance to New High as Retail Food Prices
Increase 1.5 Percent Between May 15 and June 15, 1948

THE LIBRARY OF THE
JUL 2 1948
This report combines information on the Consumers' Price
Index and the Retail Food Price Index. Final indexes for June
15, 1948 for individual cities and large cities combined are
given herein.

Retail prices of goods and services bought by moderate-income families in large cities rose to their highest recorded level on June 15, advancing 0.7 percent since mid-May. The consumers' price index for June 1948 as calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, was 171.7 percent of the 1935-39 average; 9.3 percent higher than a year ago, 28.8 percent more than in June 1946, and 74.1 percent above the August 1939 level. Retail prices of food advanced 1.5 percent on the average; prices of fuel, and housefurnishings increased 0.6 percent; and rents rose 0.3 percent. Prices of miscellaneous commodities and services as a group remained unchanged and apparel prices declined 0.3 percent.

The average increase in retail food prices of 1.5 percent from May 15 to June 15 brought the food price index to 214.1 percent of the 1935-39 average; 12.4 percent higher than a year ago and 47.0 percent above June 1946. The food index is now 2.1 percent higher than in January 1948, prior to the break in commodity market prices. It is almost 16 percent above the post World War I peak reached in June 1920. Mainly responsible for the rise from mid-May to mid-June were the average increases of 5.5 percent for meats and 5.0 percent for eggs. Beef, veal and lamb prices averaged 7.0 percent higher over the month; pork cuts were up 2.0 percent and chicken prices increased 2.7 percent. Although meat and egg prices usually rise at this time of year, these changes are much greater than the average seasonal increase. The fats and oils group advanced 2.0 percent from mid-May, with prices of oleomargarine up 4.0, shortening up 3.2 percent, salad dressing up 1.6 percent and lard up 0.2 percent. Dairy products prices rose fractionally on the average as higher prices for milk and cheese more than offset a drop in the price of butter. Prices of cereal and bakery products and coffee were up fractionally. Fruits and vegetables as a group declined 1.4 percent with lower prices for fresh vegetables (down 8.5 percent for spinach to 19.2 percent for green beans) offsetting increases for fresh fruits, sweet potatoes and canned goods. Food increased over the month in 50 of the 56 cities surveyed (0.1 percent in Dallas, Minneapolis and St. Paul, to 3.5 percent in Butte) and decreased in 6 cities (0.2 percent in Los Angeles to 0.8 percent in San Francisco).

The apparel price drop from mid-May to mid-June broke an upward trend that had persisted throughout the past year. Lower prices were reported generally for men's business shirts and pajamas, boys' shirts, and girls' cotton dresses. Prices of men's summer weight wool suits were higher in most cities. Price changes reported for other articles of apparel showed no definite trend. Of the cities surveyed in both May and June, apparel prices advanced over the month in 4 cities, declined in 3, and remained unchanged in 3.

The housefurnishings group index rose 0.6 percent from May 15 to June 15, after declining slightly in the two previous months. Higher prices for bedroom furniture were primarily responsible for the advance.

The fuel, electricity and ice group index advanced 0.6 percent from May to June. Utility costs increased 0.1 percent as adjustments for higher fuel prices resulted in slightly higher bills for electricity in Boston and New York and for gas in Baltimore. Gas rates were increased in Milwaukee. General advances in retail prices of anthracite, bituminous coal and coke increased the index for other fuels and ice by 0.9 percent over the month.

Prices of miscellaneous goods and services remained at the May 15 level, as generally higher rates for automobile insurance were offset by lower prices for soaps and household paper products.

The rent index for large cities combined advanced 0.3 percent from mid-May to mid-June, reflecting continued adjustments under the Housing and Rent Act of 1948, such as negotiated rent increases up to 15 percent, hardship adjustments, and increases for decontrolled dwellings. In the eleven cities surveyed this period, rent increases over-the-quarter ranged from 0.4 percent in Boston to 2.6 percent in Mobile.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities. Time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services are weighted by 1934-36 average expenditures of families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36. City data are combined for the United States with the use of population weights.

The indexes do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first 3 days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month.

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. Information on rents is obtained at least quarterly in each city.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Oreg.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Tables in this release contain index numbers for the current and other specified periods and show percent changes to the current period from specified dates.

Table 1 shows indexes for all items combined, groups and subgroups for large cities combined, for the current period, a month ago, 3 months ago, a year ago, June 1946 and August 1939.

Table 2 shows percent changes to the current period for indexes given in Table 1.

Table 3 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the month and over the quarter for each of 10 cities surveyed monthly.

Table 4 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the quarter for each of 8 cities surveyed quarterly.

Table 5 shows indexes for all items combined for specified periods and percent changes to the current period from specified dates for 18 cities surveyed this month.

Table 6 shows current U.S. average prices for 50 food items.

Table 7 shows food price indexes for the current period, a month ago and 3 months ago, and corresponding percent changes for 38 cities for which only food price data are collected or for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

Table 8 shows fuel price indexes for the current period and percent changes to the current period from a month ago and 3 months ago for 18 cities for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
(1935-39 = 100.0)

Group	June 15 1948	May 15 1948	Mar. 15 1948	June 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	171.7	170.5	166.9	157.1	133.3	98.6
ALL FOODS	214.1	210.9	202.3	190.5	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	171.2	171.1	171.0	154.6	122.1	93.4
Meats, poultry & fish	255.1	244.2	224.7	216.9	134.0	95.7
Meats	255.2	242.0	218.2	216.1	120.4	95.4
Beef & veal	273.9	255.8	228.5	216.4	121.2	99.6
Pork	223.5	219.1	204.3	213.6	114.3	88.0
Lamb	271.2	253.5	216.8	226.7	139.0	98.8
Chickens	207.6	202.1	194.7	182.3	162.8	94.6
Fish	299.3	305.0	313.6	254.7	219.7	99.6
Dairy products	205.9	204.8	201.1	171.5	147.8	93.1
Eggs	194.2	184.9	186.3	183.0	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	214.9	218.0	206.9	205.0	183.5	92.4
Fresh	225.2	229.4	214.2	208.0	196.7	92.8
Canned	157.4	156.4	157.7	169.7	127.5	91.6
Dried	248.0	250.0	253.9	262.6	172.5	90.3
Beverages	205.1	204.6	204.4	181.3	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	200.5	196.6	191.7	188.3	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	170.6	173.0	174.4	179.7	136.2	95.6
APPAREL	196.9	197.5	196.3	185.7	157.2	100.3
RENT	117.0	116.7	116.3	109.2	108.5	104.3
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	132.6	131.8	130.3	117.7	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	94.2	94.1	93.8	91.7	92.1	99.0
Other fuels & ice	170.1	168.6	166.0	143.0	128.4	96.3
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	194.8	193.6	194.9	182.6	156.1	100.6
MISCELLANEOUS	147.5	147.5	146.2	139.1	127.9	100.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TALBE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*, AND PERCENT
CHANGES TO JUNE 15, 1948 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS

Group	May 15 1948	Mar. 15 1948	June 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	0.7	2.9	9.3	28.8	74.1
ALL FOODS	1.5	5.8	12.4	47.0	129.0
Cereals & bakery products	0.1	0.1	10.7	40.2	83.3
Meats, poultry & fish	4.5	13.5	17.6	90.4	166.6
Meats	5.5	17.0	18.1	112.0	167.5
Beef & veal	7.1	19.9	26.6	126.0	175.0
Pork	2.0	9.4	4.6	95.5	154.0
Lamb	7.0	25.1	19.6	95.1	174.5
Chickens	2.7	6.6	13.9	27.5	119.5
Fish	-1.9	-4.6	17.5	36.2	200.5
Dairy products	0.5	2.4	20.1	39.3	121.2
Eggs	5.0	4.2	6.1	32.0	114.1
Fruits & vegetables	-1.4	3.9	4.8	17.1	132.6
Fresh	-1.8	5.1	8.3	14.5	142.7
Canned	0.6	-0.2	-7.2	23.5	71.8
Dried	-0.8	-2.3	-5.6	43.8	174.6
Beverages	0.2	0.3	13.1	63.6	116.1
Fats & oils	2.0	4.6	6.5	58.6	137.3
Sugar & sweets	-1.4	-2.2	-5.1	25.3	78.5
APPAREL	-0.3	0.3	6.0	25.3	96.3
RENT	0.3	0.6	7.1	7.8	12.2
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	0.6	1.8	12.7	20.0	36.0
Gas & electricity	0.1	0.4	2.7	2.3	-4.8
Other fuels & ice	0.9	2.5	19.0	32.5	76.6
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	0.6	-0.1	6.7	24.8	93.6
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0.9	6.0	15.3	46.9

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 10 CITIES*
SURVEYED MONTHLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM MAY 15 AND
MARCH 15, 1948 TO JUNE 15, 1948 BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
June 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Birmingham, Ala.	174.7	212.7	205.3	-	131.8	79.6	170.7	190.9	142.9
Boston, Mass.	166.1	204.1	188.5	112.6	148.7	111.7	168.4	184.8	142.6
Chicago, Ill.	176.2	221.3	199.2	131.5	126.1	83.5	170.5	179.8	147.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	173.5	216.3	192.7	112.1	137.4	95.1	177.8	190.6	149.4
Detroit, Mich.	174.5	211.3	195.2	-	143.3	83.9	188.4	204.4	162.2
Houston, Texas	172.5	220.0	208.8	-	94.3	81.8	128.0	198.8	149.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	168.8	212.1	196.2	-	94.3	89.3	118.0	185.5	146.3
New York, N. Y.	169.1	213.9	195.9	-	130.0	100.5	175.4	183.1	146.7
Philadelphia, Pa.	172.1	209.4	193.2	-	136.1	103.0	161.4	197.1	147.4
Pittsburgh, Pa.	175.7	219.6	224.0	-	134.4	103.4	187.8	200.0	143.8
Percent Changes from May 15, 1948									
Birmingham, Ala.	0.6	1.5	0.4	-	0	0	0	-0.1	-0.3
Boston, Mass.	1.2	2.5	-0.4	-	0.4	0.1	0.5	1.1	-0.3
Chicago, Ill.	0.7	1.3	0	-	0.3	0	0.6	0.6	0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.7	1.3	-0.2	-	-0.1	0	-0.2	0.4	0.3
Detroit, Mich.	0.8	1.6	0.1	-	1.1	0	1.5	0.5	0
Houston, Texas	0.6	0.9	0	-	0	0	0	1.7	0.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	-0.2	-0.2	0.2	-	0	0	0	-1.1	-0.1
New York, N. Y.	1.0	1.9	0	-	0.8	0.6	1.0	0.2	0.3
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.0	2.1	-0.3	-	0.7	0	1.1	0.2	0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.3	2.8	0.7	-	0	0.1	0	-0.4	-0.1
Percent Changes from March 15, 1948									
Birmingham, Ala.	1.6	2.7	1.1	-	0	0	0	3.7	-0.2
Boston, Mass.	3.3	6.2	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.5	1.6	1.4
Chicago, Ill.	4.3	8.3	-0.1	0.7	2.7	0	4.2	-0.6	1.5
Cincinnati, Ohio	2.5	4.9	0.6	0.6	1.9	-2.1	4.0	-0.5	0.5
Detroit, Mich.	3.4	6.9	-0.2	-	3.6	-1.2	5.4	1.1	1.9
Houston, Texas	1.5	1.9	1.4	-	0	0	0	5.3	0.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.8	1.5	1.0	-	0	0	0	-1.2	0.2
New York, N. Y.	2.9	6.3	-0.2	-	1.3	2.7	0.2	-1.0	0
Philadelphia, Pa.	4.0	6.7	0.8	-	0.7	0	1.1	0.6	3.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	3.3	7.2	1.2	-	1.1	0.1	2.1	0.6	-0.1

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 8 CITIES*
SURVEYED QUARTERLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM MARCH 15, 1948
TO JUNE 15, 1948, BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
June 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Baltimore, Md.	176.1	225.3	198.5	114.5	142.3	121.7	158.9	200.1	145.5
Jacksonville, Fla.	178.3	222.9	193.9	124.3	145.2	100.2	184.2	184.8	156.7
Memphis, Tenn.	174.7	226.7	209.0	126.8	128.1	77.0	156.4	180.4	137.2
Minneapolis, Minn.	171.4	206.2	204.5	125.9	139.2	78.5	178.6	190.7	152.4
Mobile, Ala.	173.5	219.8	202.2	124.0	127.3	84.0	161.0	173.4	138.2
Portland, Me.	167.4	204.1	197.2	111.7	144.6	100.5	166.2	189.7	147.4
St. Louis, Mo.	172.1	222.0	196.8	116.3	134.9	94.1	171.0	171.0	140.8
San Francisco, Calif.	174.2	221.6	190.8	114.5	83.1	72.7	126.9	161.4	158.7
Percent Changes from March 15, 1948									
Baltimore, Md.	3.0	6.1	0.2	0.5	2.6	1.7	3.1	1.0	0
Jacksonville, Fla.	3.2	7.1	-0.2	1.1	1.9	0	2.8	-0.1	0.6
Memphis, Tenn.	1.3	3.1	-0.4	0.6	0.1	0	0.1	-0.4	0.4
Minneapolis, Minn.	2.2	4.1	-1.3	2.3	6.3	0	8.1	-2.7	1.1
Mobile, Ala.	2.1	3.6	1.9	2.6	-1.0	-0.1	-1.4	-0.8	0.1
Portland, Me.	2.9	6.1	0.6	1.6	-1.4	0.2	-1.8	2.1	1.1
St. Louis, Mo.	2.6	5.3	-1.2	0.6	4.3	0	6.5	-0.3	0.4
San Francisco, Calif.	1.6	2.9	-0.5	1.1	0.4	0	5.3	-2.2	1.3

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 18 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JUNE 15, 1948 FROM
SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100				Percent Change to June 15, 1948 from		
	June 15 1948	June 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939	June 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	171.7	157.1	133.3	98.6	9.3	28.8	74.1
Baltimore, Md.	176.1	160.5	135.6	98.7	9.7	29.9	78.4
Birmingham, Ala.	174.7	162.1	136.5	98.5	7.8	28.0	77.4
Boston, Mass.	166.1	150.3	127.9	97.1	10.5	29.9	71.1
Chicago, Ill.	176.2	158.3	130.9	98.7	11.3	34.6	78.5
Cincinnati, Ohio	173.5	158.5	132.2	97.3	9.5	31.2	78.3
Detroit, Mich.	174.5	158.7	136.4	98.5	10.0	27.9	77.2
Houston, Texas	172.5	157.6	130.5	100.7	9.5	32.2	71.3
Jacksonville, Fla.	178.3	163.5	138.4	98.5	9.1	28.8	81.0
Los Angeles, Calif.	168.8	156.3	136.1	100.5	8.0	24.0	68.0
Memphis, Tenn.	174.7	160.6	134.5	97.8	8.8	29.9	78.6
Minneapolis, Minn.	171.4	152.9	129.4	99.7	12.1	32.5	71.9
Mobile, Ala.	173.5	159.3	132.9	98.6	8.9	30.5	76.0
New York, N. Y.	169.1	156.9	135.8	99.0	7.8	24.5	70.8
Philadelphia, Pa.	172.1	157.1	132.5	97.8	9.5	29.9	76.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	175.7	161.1	134.7	98.4	9.1	30.4	78.6
Portland, Me.	167.4	153.3	128.7	97.1	9.2	30.1	72.4
St. Louis, Mo.	172.1	155.6	131.2	98.1	10.6	31.2	75.4
San Francisco, Calif.	174.2	159.3	137.8	99.3	9.4	26.4	75.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 6 - AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
JUNE 15, 1948

Food and Unit	June 15 Average Cents	Food and Unit	June 15 Average Cents
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS		EGGS, fresh, doz.	
Cereals:			67.3
Flour, wheat, 5 lb.	48.7	FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:	
Corn flakes, 11 oz.	16.7	Fresh:	
Corn meal, lb.	11.0	Apples, lb.	14.1
Rice, lb.	21.3	Bananas, lb.	15.8
Rolled oats, 20 oz.	17.1	Oranges, size 200, doz.	43.8
Bakery products:		Beans, green, lb.	20.2
Bread, white, lb.	13.9	Cabbage, lb.	6.9
Vanilla cookies, lb.	43.9	Carrots, bunch	14.1
		Lettuce, head	13.5
		Onions, lb.	10.8
		Potatoes, 15 lb.	94.6
		Spinach, lb.	10.4
		Sweetpotatoes, lb.	14.2
		Canned:	
		Peaches, #2-1/2 can	31.0
		Pineapple, #2-1/2 can	36.6
		Corn, #2 can	19.7
		Peas, #2 can	14.7
		Tomatoes, #2 can	16.6
		Dried:	
		Prunes, lb.	20.8
		Navy beans, lb.	22.8
		BEVERAGES:	
		Coffee, lb.	51.4
		FATS AND OILS:	
		Lard, lb.	29.6
		Shortening, hydrogenated, lb.	45.2
		Salad dressing, pt.	40.5
		Oleomargarine, lb.	44.1
		SUGAR AND SWEETS:	
		Sugar, lb.	9.2
MEATS:			
Beef:			
Round steak, lb.	97.2		
Rib roast, lb.	76.8		
Chuck roast, lb.	69.5		
Hamburger, lb.	60.2		
Veal:			
Cutlets, lb.	100.7		
Pork:			
Chops, lb.	78.5		
Bacon, sliced, lb.	76.9		
Ham, whole, lb.	68.0		
Salt pork, lb.	41.1		
Lamb:			
Leg, lb.	78.2		
Poultry:			
Roasting chickens, lb.	62.6		
Fish:			
Salmon, pink, 16 oz. can	53.2		
DAIRY PRODUCTS:			
Butter, lb.	91.0		
Cheese, lb.	66.2		
Milk, fresh (delivered), qt.	21.2		
Milk, fresh (grocery), qt.	20.3		
Milk, evaporated, 14-1/2 oz. can	15.0		

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDEXES FOR 38 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM MAY 15 AND MARCH 15, 1948
TO JUNE 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to June 15, 1948 from:	
	June 15 1948	May 15 1948	Mar. 15 1948	May 15 1948	Mar. 15 1948
Atlanta, Ga.	209.9	207.9	201.1	1.0	4.4
Bridgeport, Conn.	210.3	207.5	195.6	1.3	7.5
Buffalo, N. Y.	211.6	207.9	196.6	1.8	7.6
Butte, Mont.	214.7	207.4	200.5	3.5	7.1
Cedar Rapids, Iowa <u>1/</u>	224.3	219.7	208.2	2.1	7.7
Charleston, S. C.	203.1	206.7	199.1	0.7	4.5
Cleveland, Ohio	223.7	218.0	209.3	2.6	6.9
Columbus, Ohio	199.2	195.3	190.8	2.0	4.4
Dallas, Texas	210.8	210.5	203.0	0.1	3.8
Denver, Colo.	216.5	213.3	202.3	1.5	7.0
Fall River, Mass.	211.3	207.2	197.2	2.0	7.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	211.5	208.0	203.8	1.7	3.8
Jackson, Miss. <u>1/</u>	216.7	218.0	214.6	-0.6	1.0
Kansas City, Mo.	204.4	202.2	193.0	1.1	5.9
Knoxville, Tenn. <u>1/</u>	238.4	236.2	230.0	0.9	3.7
Little Rock, Ark.	210.0	209.2	203.8	0.4	3.0
Louisville, Ky.	203.8	201.6	193.9	1.1	5.1
Manchester, N. H.	213.0	208.9	202.0	2.0	5.4
Milwaukee, Wisc.	215.3	213.7	204.6	0.7	5.2
Newark, N. J.	209.9	204.7	196.4	2.5	6.9
New Haven, Conn.	205.4	201.2	193.0	2.1	6.4
New Orleans, La.	227.3	223.0	224.3	1.9	1.3
Norfolk, Va.	214.4	213.3	206.0	0.5	4.1
Omaha, Nebr.	210.1	207.2	197.7	1.4	6.3
Peoria, Ill.	227.3	223.8	205.8	1.6	10.4
Portland, Oreg.	228.2	229.5	220.4	-0.6	3.5
Providence, R. I.	222.0	217.9	205.5	1.9	8.0
Richmond, Va.	205.3	203.4	197.6	0.9	3.9
Rochester, N. Y.	208.8	205.1	196.7	1.8	6.2
St. Paul, Minn.	203.7	203.5	195.3	0.1	4.3
Salt Lake City, Utah	215.8	216.8	207.3	-0.5	4.1
Savannah, Ga.	224.5	223.3	213.6	0.5	5.1
Scranton, Pa.	216.1	212.2	201.8	1.8	7.1
Seattle, Wash.	220.3	221.4	212.5	-0.5	3.7
Springfield, Ill.	224.4	219.3	209.1	2.3	7.3
Washington, D. C.	215.4	209.7	198.9	2.7	8.3
Wichita, Kans. <u>1/</u>	226.4	225.3	215.9	0.5	4.9
Winston-Salem, N. C. <u>1/</u>	209.5	208.4	202.7	0.5	3.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.
1/ June 1940 = 100.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FUEL, ELECTRICITY AND ICE PRICE INDEXES FOR 16 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM MAY 15 AND MARCH 15, 1948
TO JUNE 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Index June 15, 1948 (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to June 15, 1948 from					
	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	May 15, 1948			March 15, 1948		
				Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice
Atlanta, Ga.	144.3	77.0	206.1	0	0.1	0	2.8	0	3.7
Buffalo, N. Y.	132.6	96.0	165.2	1.5	0	2.3	3.3	0	5.1
Cleveland, Ohio	139.5	109.6	171.9	0.1	0	0.2	2.3	1.2	2.9
Denver, Colo.	106.7	69.2	149.6	0	0	0	-0.1	0	-0.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	148.5	86.6	184.9	0	0	-0.1	3.1	0	3.9
Kansas City, Mo.	120.7	66.5	170.3	0	0	0	0.1	-0.2	0.2
Manchester, N. H.	152.2	94.6	180.9	0.9	0	1.0	-0.9	0	-1.1
Milwaukee, Wisc.	141.7	104.5	167.3	1.6	2.9	1.1	3.3	0.8	4.4
New Orleans, La.	112.9	75.1	153.1	0.1	0	0.1	0.1	0	0.1
Norfolk, Va.	145.5	97.8	183.1	1.5	0	2.2	1.5	0	2.3
Portland, Oreg.	127.0	95.5	165.8	0.2	0	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.5
Richmond, Va.	138.2	95.6	164.1	0.4	0	0.4	3.1	0	4.2
Savannah, Ga.	151.4	91.2	186.3	2.9	0	3.7	4.5	0	5.8
Scranton, Pa.	136.1	91.8	163.2	1.2	0	1.6	1.2	0	1.6
Seattle, Wash.	122.9	91.5	149.1	0.7	0	1.0	1.2	0	1.8
Washington, D. C.	131.2	94.4	155.7	0.2	0	0.4	1.1	0	1.5

* See General Explanation on page 3.

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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL FOOD PRICES
July 15, 1948

Consumers' Price Index Continues Advance as Retail Food Prices Increase 1.3
Percent Between June 15 and July 15, 1948

This report combines information on the Consumers' Price
Index and the Retail Food Price Index. Final indexes for
July 15, 1948 for individual cities and large cities combined
are given herein.

From June 15 to July 15, 1948, average prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities increased 1.2 percent, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. The consumers' price index on July 15, 1948 was 173.7 percent of the 1935-39 average, a new high. It was 9.7 percent higher than a year ago; 30.3 percent above the June 1946 level; and 76.2 percent above August 1939. As compared with mid-June, retail food prices averaged 1.3 percent higher; miscellaneous goods and services were up 2.2 percent; the fuel and ice group advanced 1.7 percent, and other major groups increased fractionally.

The continued rise in retail food prices brought the food index for July to 216.8 percent of the 1935-39 average; 12.3 percent higher than a year ago; 48.9 percent more than in June 1946; and 131.9 percent above the August 1939 level. The principal increases were in prices of meats, poultry, and fish, dairy products, and eggs. Prices of fresh fruits and vegetables declined less than seasonally. Food prices rose in 50 of the 56 cities surveyed, dropped in 3 cities, and remained unchanged in 3 cities.

Prices of meats, poultry, and fish continued to rise, advancing 2.6 percent from mid-June to mid-July, for a total of 95.4 percent since June 1946. Price increases during the month ranged from 0.7 percent for canned salmon to 6.1 percent for pork chops. Dairy products prices increased 1.5 percent, with fresh milk prices up 1.7 percent, cheese prices up 2.9 percent, and butter 0.9 percent. Egg prices rose seasonally by 5.2 percent. Fats and oils increased 0.1 percent, as higher prices for shortening and salad dressing were not quite offset by decreases for oleomargarine and lard. Fruit and vegetable prices declined 0.7 percent from mid-June, considerably less than the usual drop at this time of the year, and cereals and bakery products prices dropped fractionally. Price decreases of 23.2 percent for carrots and 13.9 percent for cabbage more than offset higher prices for spinach, oranges, lettuce and bananas. Sugar prices averaged 0.2 percent higher than a month ago.

Apparel prices rose slightly (0.1 percent) from mid-June to mid-July, after declining from May to June. Higher prices for men's wool suits more than offset small seasonal reductions for women's and girls' cotton dresses and other cotton summer clothing. Apparel prices rose over the month in 4 of the cities surveyed in both June and July, dropped in 4 cities, and remained unchanged in 2 cities.

The index of fuel, electricity and ice prices advanced 1.7 percent from June to July. General price increases for anthracite and bituminous coal largely accounted for a 2.4 percent rise in the group including other fuels and ice, although there were scattered increases in fuel oil and ice prices. Utilities costs rose 0.2 percent over the month. Lower discounts for prompt payment resulted in higher electric bills for consumers in Detroit, while gas rates were reduced in Minneapolis.

The index of housefurnishings prices advanced 0.6 percent from June to July with prices generally higher for electric refrigerators, wool rugs and dinette sets.

Prices of miscellaneous goods and services advanced 2.2 percent from mid-June to mid-July. Higher prices were reported for automobiles, tires, and automobile insurance; local public transportation fares were higher in New York, Chicago, Cincinnati, and some other cities. Prices of toilet soap and beauty shop services declined slightly.

The rent index for large cities combined averaged 0.3 percent higher from mid-June to mid-July, as negotiated increases up to 15 percent and other adjustments under the rent regulations continued to be made. In the 11 cities surveyed by the Bureau during this period, rents increased over-the-quarter from 0.1 percent in Savannah to 2.2 percent in Pittsburgh. Rents also increased 1 percent or more in Denver, Indianapolis, Buffalo, Kansas City and Manchester.

On August 25, immediately upon completion of the calculations, the Bureau released the July 1948 Consumers' Price Index for large cities combined and for each of the 18 cities through the public press. Because of the very large number of people on the Bureau's mailing list, about a week is required to reproduce and distribute this detailed report.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities. Time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services are weighted by 1934-36 average expenditures of families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36. City data are combined for the United States with the use of population weights.

The indexes do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first 3 days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month.

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Oreg.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Rental information is obtained quarterly in each city. The Bureau of Labor Statistics obtains its figures on rents by asking tenants in a representative sample of dwellings what rent they pay and what facilities and services are included in the rent. The samples are chosen to represent all tenant dwellings, new and old, small and large, single homes and apartments. The rents, so reported, are then compared with those reported by the tenants for the same dwellings at the time of the last rent survey, after adjustments are made for any changes in the facilities (e.g., heat) and services (e.g., janitor service) included in the rent. Removal of facilities and services without compensating reductions in rent are treated as rent increases. When facilities or services not previously included in the contract rent are added, if the rent is increased in excess of the value of the additional items, the excess charge is reflected as a rent increase. Just as in the case of the other groups (food, apparel, etc.) of the consumers' price index, the rent index measures changes in the rent paid for the same dwellings from one time to another, not the amount of money which families spend for housing. For example, it does not reflect the costs of repairs made by tenants, the change in housing costs of workers who have migrated or moved to better or poorer quarters; nor does it take into account deterioration

in upkeep or service, or the additional costs of "extras" or premiums charged by some landlords when they rent to new tenants. A representation of new and converted units is added to the rent samples periodically and thereafter rent changes for these units are reflected in the index as they occur. The index is not adjusted to reflect the differences between the rents at which newly constructed or converted dwellings enter the rental market and the rents for comparable existing housing. The rent index measures only changes in rents, and does not reflect the costs of shifting from renting to owning, or changes in the costs of buying or maintaining owner-occupied homes.

Tables in this release contain index numbers for the current and other specified periods and show percent changes to the current period from specified dates.

Table 1 shows indexes for all items combined, groups and subgroups for large cities combined, for the current period, a month ago, 3 months ago, a year ago, June 1946 and August 1939.

Table 2 shows percent changes to the current period for indexes given in Table 1.

Table 3 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the month and over the quarter for each of 10 cities surveyed monthly.

Table 4 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the quarter for each of 8 cities surveyed quarterly.

Table 5 shows indexes for all items combined for specified periods and percent changes to the current period from specified dates for 18 cities surveyed this month.

Table 6 shows current U.S. average prices for 50 food items.

Table 7 shows food price indexes for the current period, a month ago and 3 months ago, and corresponding percent changes for 38 cities for which only food price data are collected or for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

Table 8 shows fuel price indexes for the current period and percent changes to the current period from a month ago and 3 months ago for 18 cities for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
(1935-39 = 100.0)

Group	July 15 1948	June 15 1948	April 15 1948	July 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	173.7	171.7	169.3	158.4	133.3	98.6
ALL FOODS	216.8	214.1	207.9	193.1	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	171.0	171.2	171.0	155.0	122.1	93.4
Meats, poultry & fish	261.8	255.1	233.8	220.2	134.0	95.7
Meats	263.0	255.2	229.5	219.7	120.4	95.4
Beef & veal	280.9	273.9	241.2	220.8	121.2	99.6
Pork	233.8	223.5	212.3	216.4	114.3	88.0
Lamb	275.0	271.2	232.6	228.6	139.0	98.8
Chickens	209.3	207.6	198.4	181.9	162.8	94.6
Fish	301.6	299.3	307.2	260.6	219.7	99.6
Dairy products	209.0	205.9	205.8	178.8	147.8	93.1
Eggs	204.3	194.2	184.7	203.0	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	213.4	214.9	217.4	202.0	183.5	92.4
Fresh	223.2	225.2	228.4	204.2	196.7	92.8
Canned	157.7	157.4	156.4	168.5	127.5	91.6
Dried	248.0	248.0	252.1	263.6	172.5	90.3
Beverages	205.2	205.1	204.4	180.8	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	200.8	200.5	191.4	182.0	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	170.9	170.6	173.6	179.7	136.2	95.6
APPAREL	197.1	196.9	196.4	184.7	157.2	100.3
RENT	117.3	117.0	116.3	110.0	108.5	104.3
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	134.8	132.6	130.7	119.5	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	94.4	94.2	93.9	91.7	92.1	99.0
Other fuels & ice	174.2	170.1	166.7	146.6	128.4	96.3
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	195.9	194.8	194.7	184.3	156.1	100.6
MISCELLANEOUS	150.8	147.5	147.8	139.5	127.9	100.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*, AND PERCENT
CHANGES TO JULY 15, 1948 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS

Group	June 15 1948	April 15 1948	July 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	1.2	2.6	9.7	30.3	76.2
ALL FOODS	1.3	4.3	12.3	48.9	131.9
Cereals & bakery products	-0.1	0	10.3	40.0	83.1
Meats, poultry & fish	2.6	12.0	18.9	95.4	173.6
Meats	3.1	14.6	19.7	18.4	175.7
Beef & veal	2.6	16.5	27.2	131.8	182.0
Pork	4.6	10.1	8.0	104.5	165.7
Lamb	1.4	18.2	20.3	97.8	178.3
Chickens	0.8	5.5	15.1	28.6	121.2
Fish	0.8	-1.8	15.7	37.3	202.8
Dairy products	1.5	1.6	16.9	41.4	124.5
Eggs	5.2	10.6	0.6	38.9	125.2
Fruits & vegetables	-0.7	-1.8	5.6	16.3	131.0
Fresh	-0.9	-2.3	9.3	13.5	140.5
Canned	0.2	0.8	- 6.4	23.7	72.2
Dried	0	-1.6	- 5.9	43.8	174.6
Beverages	0	0.4	13.5	63.6	116.2
Fats & oils	0.1	4.9	10.3	58.9	137.6
Sugar & sweets	0.2	-1.6	- 4.9	25.5	78.8
APPAREL	0.1	0.4	6.7	25.4	96.5
RENT	0.3	0.9	6.6	8.1	12.5
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	1.7	3.1	12.8	22.0	38.3
Gas & electricity	0.2	0.5	2.9	2.5	- 4.6
Other fuels & Ice	2.4	4.5	18.8	35.7	80.9
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	0.6	0.6	6.3	25.5	94.7
MISCELLANEOUS	2.2	2.0	8.1	17.9	50.2

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 10 CITIES*
SURVEYED MONTHLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM JUNE 15 AND
APRIL 15, 1948 TO JULY 15, 1948 BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- Furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
July 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Birmingham, Ala.	177.0	218.0	205.4	-	135.6	79.6	177.3	191.7	143.8
Boston, Mass.	168.6	210.2	188.5	-	149.4	112.1	169.3	186.4	142.9
Chicago, Ill.	178.6	224.7	197.8	-	130.1	83.5	178.5	181.5	150.9
Cincinnati, Ohio	175.9	220.4	193.2	-	141.1	95.1	185.0	191.5	152.2
Detroit, Mich.	175.9	213.2	194.3	125.3	147.3	86.7	193.4	205.5	163.9
Houston, Texas	173.7	222.1	208.2	-	98.4	81.8	146.1	199.1	151.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	170.3	213.1	195.7	-	94.3	89.3	118.0	185.9	150.2
New York, N. Y.	172.6	217.9	196.8	107.1	131.0	100.5	177.7	184.1	155.3
Philadelphia, Pa.	172.9	210.9	193.3	-	136.1	103.0	161.4	198.9	148.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	177.8	222.3	224.2	118.5	137.2	103.4	195.5	203.0	145.0
Percent Changes from June 15, 1948									
Birmingham, Ala.	1.3	2.5	0	-	2.9	0	3.9	-0.4	0.6
Boston, Mass.	1.5	3.0	0	-	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.9	0.2
Chicago, Ill.	1.4	1.5	-0.7	-	3.2	0	4.7	0.9	2.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.4	1.9	0.3	-	2.7	0	4.0	0.5	1.9
Detroit, Mich.	0.8	0.9	-0.5	-	2.8	3.3	2.7	0.5	1.0
Houston, Texas	0.7	1.0	-0.3	-	4.3	0	14.1	0.2	0.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.9	0.5	-0.3	-	0	0	0	0.2	2.7
New York, N. Y.	2.1	1.9	0.5	-	0.8	0	1.3	0.5	5.9
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.5	0.7	0.1	-	0	0	0	0.9	0.5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.2	1.2	0.1	-	2.1	0	4.1	1.5	0.8
Percent Changes from April 15, 1948									
Birmingham, Ala.	2.5	5.1	0.5	-	2.9	0	3.9	-0.1	0.6
Boston, Mass.	3.1	6.1	0.2	-	0.4	0.6	0.4	2.1	0.2
Chicago, Ill.	3.8	5.9	-0.7	-	3.9	0	5.9	0.9	4.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	3.0	4.9	0.5	-	4.3	-2.1	7.7	1.0	1.9
Detroit, Mich.	2.4	4.6	-0.7	0.7	6.9	3.5	8.2	1.2	0.8
Houston, Texas	1.3	1.3	0.9	-	4.3	0	14.1	2.3	1.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.6	-0.4	1.0	-	0	0	0	-1.5	2.3
New York, N. Y.	3.4	4.5	0.7	0.5	2.1	2.1	2.1	-0.1	5.9
Philadelphia, Pa.	2.1	4.0	1.0	-	0.7	0	1.1	0.5	0.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	3.4	6.0	1.0	2.2	3.2	0.2	6.3	1.9	0.8

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 8 CITIES*
SURVEYED QUARTERLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM APRIL 15, 1948
TO JULY 15, 1948, BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
July 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Buffalo, N. Y.	173.1	212.9	197.2	121.3	139.1	96.0	177.4	202.3	152.8
Denver, Colo.	172.5	217.0	196.1	122.6	109.3	69.2	155.1	217.3	149.0
Indianapolis, Ind.	176.5	212.6	191.1	128.5	152.1	86.6	190.7	187.8	158.2
Kansas City, Mo.	166.3	204.4	186.4	122.2	127.0	66.4	182.4	183.5	150.1
Manchester, N. H.	178.1	218.4	191.4	111.4	152.8	94.6	181.9	200.0	144.8
Portland, Oreg.	180.3	233.7	194.8	123.2	127.2	95.7	165.8	186.4	153.9
Richmond, Va.	168.9	209.4	198.2	113.0	142.3	95.6	170.8	208.4	141.7
Savannah, Ga.	180.2	228.3	194.0	117.0	151.4	91.2	186.3	202.3	153.4
Percent Changes from April 15, 1948									
Buffalo, N. Y.	3.5	6.3	0.2	1.3	8.3	0	12.8	0.7	0.9
Denver, Colo.	2.4	4.1	0.7	1.3	2.4	0	3.7	0.5	1.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	2.3	3.4	-0.1	1.0	5.4	0	7.0	1.7	1.9
Kansas City, Mo.	1.8	3.3	-0.7	1.0	5.2	-0.3	7.2	1.1	0.7
Manchester, N. H.	3.5	6.6	0.6	1.0	0.7	0	0.9	1.9	0.9
Portland, Oreg.	2.6	4.7	-0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.5	-0.5	2.3
Richmond, Va.	3.4	4.4	2.3	0.8	5.3	0	7.3	1.4	3.4
Savannah, Ga.	1.5	3.1	0.6	0.1	2.9	0	3.7	-1.4	-0.3

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 18 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES TO JULY 15, 1948 FROM
SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100				Percent Change to July 1948 from		
	July 15 1948	July 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939	July 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	173.7	158.4	133.3	98.6	9.7	30.3	76.2
Birmingham, Ala.	177.0	164.1	136.5	98.5	7.9	29.7	79.7
Boston, Mass.	168.6	151.9	127.9	97.1	11.0	31.8	73.6
Buffalo, N. Y.	173.1	159.1	132.6	98.5	8.8	30.5	75.7
Chicago, Ill.	178.6	160.1	130.9	98.7	11.6	36.4	81.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	175.9	160.4	132.2	97.3	9.7	33.1	80.8
Denver, Colo.	172.5	155.7	131.7	98.6	10.8	31.0	74.9
Detroit, Mich.	175.9	160.2	136.4	98.5	9.8	29.0	78.6
Houston, Texas	173.7	158.4	130.5	100.7	9.7	33.1	72.5
Indianapolis, Ind.	176.5	159.5	131.9	98.0	10.7	33.8	80.1
Kansas City, Mo.	166.3	150.5	129.4	98.6	10.5	28.5	68.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	170.3	157.2	136.1	100.5	8.3	25.1	69.5
Manchester, N. H.	178.1	162.1	134.7	97.8	9.9	32.2	82.1
New York, N. Y.	172.6	157.5	135.8	99.0	9.6	27.1	74.3
Philadelphia, Pa.	172.9	158.3	132.5	97.8	9.2	30.5	76.8
Pittsburgh, Pa.	177.8	162.6	134.7	98.4	9.3	32.0	80.7
Portland, Oreg.	180.3	162.1	140.3	100.1	11.2	28.5	80.1
Richmond, Va.	168.9	153.8	128.2	98.0	9.8	31.7	72.3
Savannah, Ga.	180.2	165.9	140.6	99.3	8.6	28.2	81.5

* See General Explanation on page 3.

Table 9
July 1948

TABLE 6 - AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
JULY 15, 1948

Food and Unit	July 15 Average Cents	Food and Unit	July 15 Average Cents
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS		EGGS, fresh, doz.	
Cereals:			70.8
Flour, wheat, 5 lb.	48.2	FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:	
Corn flakes, 11 oz.	16.7	Fresh:	
Corn meal, lb.	11.1	Apples, lb.	13.9
Rice, lb.	21.5	Bananas, lb.	16.3
Rolled oats, 20 oz.	17.1	Oranges, size 200, doz.	47.8
Bakery products:		Beans, green, lb.	20.4
Bread, white, lb.	13.9	Cabbage, lb.	5.9
Vanilla cookies, lb.	44.3	Carrots, bunch	10.9
MEATS:		Lettuce, head	14.6
Beef:		Onions, lb.	10.4
Round steak, lb.	99.5	Potatoes, 15 lb.	89.2
Rib roast, lb.	79.6	Spinach, lb.	12.5
Chuck roast, lb.	70.8	Sweetpotatoes, lb.	1/
Hamburger, lb.	61.6	Canned:	
Veal:		Peaches, #2-1/2 can	31.2
Cutlets, lb.	102.1	Pineapple, #2-1/2 can	1/
Pork:		Corn, #2 can	19.7
Chops, lb.	83.3	Peas, #2 can	14.8
Bacon, sliced, lb.	77.9	Tomatoes, #2 can	16.6
Ham, whole, lb.	71.8	Dried:	
Salt pork, lb.	40.9	Prunes, lb.	20.9
Lamb:		Navy beans, lb.	22.7
Leg, lb.	79.3	BEVERAGES;	
Poultry:		Coffee, lb.	51.5
Roasting chickens, lb.	63.1	FATS AND OILS:	
Fish:		Lard, lb.	29.5
Salmon, pink, 16 oz. can	53.5	Shortening, hydrogenated, lb.	45.7
DAIRY PRODUCTS:		Salad dressing, pt.	40.8
Butter, lb.	91.7	Oleomargarine, lb.	43.7
Cheese, lb.	68.2	SUGAR AND SWEETS:	
Milk, fresh (delivered), qt.	21.5	Sugar, lb.	9.2
Milk, fresh (grocery), qt.	20.6		
Milk, evaporated, 14-1/2 oz. can	15.2		

* See General Explanation on page 3.
1/ Inadequate reports.

TABLE 7 RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDEXES FOR 38 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM JUNE 15 AND APRIL 15, 1948
TO JULY 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to July 15, 1948 from	
	July 15 1948	June 15 1948	April 15 1948	June 15 1948	April 15 1948
Atlanta, Ga.	212.4	209.9	204.7	1.2	3.8
Baltimore, Md.	227.7	225.3	217.8	1.1	4.5
Bridgeport, Conn.	214.4	210.3	201.4	1.9	6.5
Butte, Mont.	216.6	214.7	201.3	0.9	7.6
Cedar Rapids, Iowa <u>1/</u>	224.4	224.3	217.0	0	3.4
Charleston, S. C.	211.4	208.1	204.8	1.6	3.2
Cleveland, Ohio	226.2	223.7	213.0	1.1	6.2
Columbus, Ohio	201.9	199.2	193.1	1.4	4.6
Dallas, Texas	213.3	210.8	206.7	1.2	3.2
Fall River, Mass.	214.1	211.3	201.2	1.3	6.4
Jackson, Miss. <u>1/</u>	220.8	216.7	218.3	1.9	1.1
Jacksonville, Fla.	222.8	222.9	214.7	0	3.8
Knoxville, Tenn. <u>1/</u>	241.7	238.4	233.9	1.4	3.3
Little Rock, Ark.	213.4	210.0	206.4	1.6	3.4
Louisville, Ky.	206.8	203.8	198.2	1.5	4.3
Memphis, Tenn.	229.8	226.7	222.2	1.4	3.4
Milwaukee, Wis.	218.3	215.3	210.9	1.4	3.5
Minneapolis, Minn.	208.2	206.2	203.0	1.0	2.6
Mobile, Ala.	222.5	219.8	216.3	1.2	2.9
Newark, N. J.	212.8	209.9	203.0	1.4	4.8
New Haven, Conn.	208.3	205.4	197.7	1.4	5.4
New Orleans, La.	233.2	227.3	228.7	2.6	2.0
Norfolk, Va.	216.9	214.4	210.5	1.2	3.0
Omaha, Nebr.	208.6	210.1	202.5	-0.7	3.0
Peoria, Ill.	224.9	227.3	217.0	-1.1	3.6
Portland, Me.	209.7	204.1	197.0	2.7	6.4
Providence, R. I.	224.9	222.0	213.1	1.3	5.5
Rochester, N. Y.	211.2	208.8	200.8	1.1	5.2
St. Louis, Mo.	224.2	222.0	213.6	1.0	5.0
St. Paul, Minn.	204.7	203.7	200.5	0.5	2.1
Salt Lake City, Utah	217.1	215.8	212.9	0.6	2.0
San Francisco, Calif.	223.2	221.6	219.5	0.7	1.7
Scranton, Pa.	218.2	216.1	208.9	1.0	4.5
Seattle, Wash.	223.4	220.3	215.5	1.4	3.7
Springfield, Ill.	224.9	224.4	212.6	0.2	5.8
Washington, D. C.	215.1	215.4	205.1	-0.1	4.9
Wichita, Kans. <u>1/</u>	226.7	226.4	220.3	0.1	2.9
Winston-Salem, N. C. <u>1/</u>	212.9	209.5	206.0	1.6	3.3

* See General Explanation on page 3.

1/ June 1940 = 100.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FUEL, ELECTRICITY AND ICE PRICE INDEXES FOR 16 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM APRIL 15, AND JUNE 15, 1948
TO JULY 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Index: July 15, 1948 (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to July 15, 1948 from					
				June 15, 1948			April 15, 1948		
	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice
Atlanta, Ga.	147.2	77.0	211.7	2.0	0	2.7	4.8	0.1	6.5
Baltimore, Md.	144.3	121.2	163.0	1.4	-0.4	2.6	3.7	0.3	5.8
Cleveland, Ohio	142.6	105.6	178.0	2.2	0	3.5	4.1	0	6.6
Jacksonville, Fla.	147.3	100.2	188.1	1.4	0	2.1	3.4	0	5.0
Memphis, Tenn.	128.1	77.0	156.4	0	0	0	0.1	0	0.1
Milwaukee, Wisc.	141.9	104.5	167.6	0.1	0	0.2	4.1	2.9	4.6
Minneapolis, Minn.	138.1	75.8	178.5	-0.8	-3.4	-0.1	3.5	-3.4	5.6
Mobile, Ala.	127.8	84.0	162.0	0.4	0	0.6	-0.6	-0.1	-0.8
New Orleans, La.	113.0	75.1	153.2	0.1	0	0.1	0.2	0	0.2
Norfolk, Va.	147.8	97.8	187.1	1.6	0	2.2	3.1	0	4.5
Portland, Me.	145.0	100.4	166.8	0.3	-0.1	0.4	0.9	0.1	1.2
St. Louis, Mo.	137.1	94.1	175.2	1.6	0	2.5	6.0	0	9.1
San Francisco, Calif.	83.1	72.7	126.9	0	0	0	0.4	0	5.3
Scranton, Pa.	138.3	91.8	166.7	1.6	0	2.1	2.8	0	3.8
Seattle, Wash.	123.1	91.5	149.5	0.2	0	0.3	1.4	0	2.1
Washington, D. C.	132.0	94.4	157.0	0.6	0	0.8	1.7	0	2.3

* See General Explanation on page 3.



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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL FOOD PRICES

August 15, 1948

Consumers' Price Index Continues Advance but Retail Food Prices Decline
0.1 Percent Between July 15 and August 15, 1948

: This report combines information on the Consumers'
: Price Index and the Retail Food Price Index. Final indexes :
: for August 15, 1948 for individual cities and large cities :
: combined are given herein. :

Retail prices of goods and services usually purchased by moderate-income families in large cities rose 0.5 percent from July 15 to August 15, 1948, bringing the consumers' price index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, to 174.5 percent of the 1935-39 average. It was 3.9 percent higher than a year ago; 30.9 percent above June 1946; and 77.0 percent above the August 1939 level. A decrease of 0.1 percent in food prices was more than offset by increases in all other major groups. Apparel prices averaged 1.3 percent higher than in July; fuel, electricity and ice prices advanced 1.5 percent; miscellaneous goods and services rose 1.1 percent; and rents and housefurnishings advanced fractionally over the month.

The decline in retail food prices from mid-July to mid-August, which interrupted a steady increase amounting to 7.2 percent over the 4 previous months, was primarily the result of more-than-seasonal declines in prices of fresh fruits and vegetables, offsetting seasonal increases in meats, dairy products and eggs. The pattern of price changes from July to August among various groups of foods more nearly approximated usual seasonal movements than in any recent months. The retail food price index on August 15, 1948 was 216.6 percent of the 1935-39 average, 10.2 percent higher than a year ago and 48.8 percent above the June 1946 level. Chiefly responsible for the decline was an average decrease of 8.2 percent in prices of fresh fruits and vegetables. Fats and oils dropped 1.5 percent and cereals and bakery products 0.1 percent. Seasonal advances were reported for meats, poultry and fish (up 2.0 percent); dairy products (up 1.0 percent); and eggs (up 7.8 percent). Prices of sugar and sweets were 0.8 percent higher over the month, while beverage prices remained unchanged from the July level.

Prices of fresh fruits and vegetables dropped for the third consecutive month, led by decreases of 30.0 percent for onions, 19.5 percent for lettuce, 17.9 percent for sweetpotatoes, 15.2 percent for apples, and about 10 percent for potatoes and cabbage. Canned and dried fruits and vegetables advanced fractionally. Vegetable shortening prices were 4.9 percent lower over the month, and smaller decreases were reported for oleomargarine, lard, and salad dressing. Higher prices were reported for beef, pork, veal and fish, while lamb and chicken prices declined. Milk and cheese prices advanced seasonally. In the 56 cities surveyed, food prices decreased from mid-July to mid-August in 28 cities, increased in 26, and were unchanged in 2.

The increase of 1.3 percent in the apparel price index over the month resulted primarily from higher prices for women's wool coats, suits and dresses, and nylon hose. Prices of cotton yard goods and men's and boys' cotton furnishings were lower on the average, reflecting declining costs of cotton fabrics. Apparel prices rose between July and August in 9 of the 10 cities surveyed in both months, with increases of about 2 percent reported in Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Detroit and New York.

The fuel, electricity and ice group index advanced 1.5 percent from July 15 to August 15, continuing an upward trend which has persisted for more than a year for a total increase of 16.2 percent since June 1947. Higher prices for anthracite, bituminous coal, and coke were chiefly responsible for the rise. Electricity rates were increased in Portland, Maine and Washington, D. C.

The housefurnishings group index advanced 0.2 percent from mid-July to mid-August. Higher prices for major electrical appliances, such as refrigerators, washing machines and sewing machines, more than offset lower quotations for radio-phonographs.

Prices of miscellaneous goods and services rose 1.1 percent on the average over the month. Higher prices were reported for automobiles. Prices of cigarettes, cigars and tooth paste rose while laundry soap prices declined slightly.

Residential rents increased 0.3 percent, on the average, from July 15 to August 15, reflecting continued advances in all of the 12 cities surveyed. During the 3-month period since May 15, average rent increases ranged from 0.3 percent in Cleveland to 2.5 percent in Los Angeles. Increases of 1 percent or more were reported in Norfolk, Houston, Scranton and Atlanta.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities. Time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services are weighted by 1934-36 average expenditures of families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36. City data are combined for the United States with the use of population weights.

The indexes do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first 3 days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month.

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities.

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Oreg.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Rental information is obtained quarterly in each city. The Bureau of Labor Statistics obtains its figures on rents by asking tenants in a representative sample of dwellings what rent they pay and what facilities and services are included in the rent. The samples are chosen to represent all tenant dwellings, new and old, small and large, single homes and apartments. The rents, so reported, are then compared with those reported by the tenants for the same dwellings at the time of the last rent survey, after adjustments are made for any changes in the facilities (e.g., heat) and services (e.g., janitor service) included in the rent. Removal of facilities and services without compensating reductions in rent are treated as rent increases. When facilities or services not previously included in the contract rent are added, if the rent is increased in excess of the value of the additional items, the excess charge is reflected as a rent increase. Just as in the case of the other groups (food, apparel, etc.) of the consumers' price index, the rent index measures changes in the rent paid for the same dwellings from one time to another, not the amount of money which families spend for housing. For example, it does not reflect the costs of repairs made by tenants, the change in housing costs of workers who have migrated or moved to better or poorer quarters, nor does it take into account deterioration

in upkeep or service, or the additional costs of "extras" or premiums charged by some landlords when they rent to new tenants. A representation of new and converted units is added to the rent samples periodically and thereafter rent changes for these units are reflected in the index as they occur. The index is not adjusted to reflect the differences between the rents at which newly constructed or converted dwellings enter the rental market and the rents for comparable existing housing. The rent index measures only changes in rents, and does not reflect the costs of shifting from renting to owning, or changes in the costs of buying or maintaining owner-occupied homes.

Tables in this release contain index numbers for the current and other specified periods and show percent changes to the current period from specified dates.

Table 1 shows indexes for all items combined, groups and subgroups for large cities combined, for the current period, a month ago, 3 months ago, a year ago, June 1946 and August 1939.

Table 2 shows percent changes to the current period for indexes given in Table 1.

Table 3 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the month and over the quarter for each of 10 cities surveyed monthly.

Table 4 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the quarter for each of 8 cities surveyed quarterly.

Table 5 shows indexes for all items combined for specified periods and percent changes to the current period from specified dates for 18 cities surveyed this month.

Table 6 shows current U.S. average prices for 50 food items.

Table 7 shows food price indexes for the current period, a month ago and 3 months ago, and corresponding percent changes for 38 cities for which only food price data are collected or for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

Table 8 shows fuel price indexes for the current period and percent changes to the current period from a month ago and 3 months ago for 18 cities for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
(1935-39 = 100.0)

Group	Aug. 15 1943	July 15 1948	May 15 1948	Aug. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	174.5	173.7	170.5	160.3	133.3	98.6
ALL FOODS	216.6	216.8	210.9	196.5	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	170.8	171.0	171.1	155.7	122.1	97.4
Meats, poultry & fish	267.0	261.8	244.2	223.4	134.0	95.7
Meats	269.3	263.0	242.0	229.8	120.4	95.4
Beef & veal	286.2	280.9	255.8	230.5	121.2	99.6
Pork	246.3	233.8	219.1	229.3	114.3	88.0
Lamb	266.6	275.0	253.5	232.1	139.0	98.3
Chickens	207.3	209.3	202.1	180.5	162.8	94.6
Fish	304.4	301.6	305.0	262.4	219.7	99.6
Dairy products	211.0	209.0	204.8	183.8	147.8	93.1
Eggs	220.2	204.3	184.9	212.3	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	199.6	213.4	213.0	199.8	183.5	92.4
Fresh	204.8	223.2	229.4	202.1	196.7	92.8
Canned	157.8	157.7	156.4	165.7	127.5	91.6
Dried	249.2	248.6	250.0	263.4	172.5	90.3
Beverages	205.3	205.2	204.6	181.7	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	197.8	200.8	196.6	178.5	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	172.3	170.9	173.0	179.8	135.2	95.6
APPAREL	199.7	197.1	197.5	185.9	157.2	100.3
RENT	117.7	117.3	116.7	111.2	108.5	104.3
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	136.8	134.8	131.8	123.8	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	94.5	94.4	94.1	92.0	92.1	99.0
Other fuels & ice	178.1	174.2	168.6	154.8	128.4	96.3
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	196.3	195.9	193.6	184.2	156.1	100.6
MISCELLANEOUS	152.4	150.8	147.5	139.8	127.9	100.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*, AND PERCENT
CHANGES TO AUGUST 15, 1948 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS

Group	July 15 1948	May 15 1948	Aug. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	0.5	2.3	8.9	30.9	77.0
ALL FOODS	-0.1	2.7	10.2	48.8	131.7
Cereals & bakery products	-0.1	-0.2	9.7	39.9	82.9
Meats, poultry & fish	2.0	9.3	16.9	99.3	179.0
Meats	2.4	11.3	17.2	123.7	182.3
Beef & veal	1.9	11.9	24.2	136.1	187.3
Pork	5.3	12.3	7.3	115.3	179.7
Lamb	-3.1	5.2	14.9	91.8	169.8
Chickens	-0.7	2.8	15.1	27.6	119.7
Fish	0.9	-0.2	16.0	38.6	205.6
Dairy products	1.0	3.0	14.8	42.8	126.6
Eggs	7.8	19.1	3.7	49.7	142.8
Fruits & vegetables	-6.5	-8.4	-0.1	8.8	116.0
Fresh	-8.2	-10.7	1.3	4.1	120.7
Canned	0.1	0.9	-4.8	23.8	72.3
Dried	0.5	-0.3	-5.4	44.5	176.0
Beverages	0	0.3	13.0	63.7	116.3
Fats & oils	-1.5	0.6	10.8	56.5	134.1
Sugar & sweets	0.8	-0.4	-4.2	26.5	80.2
APPAREL	1.3	1.1	7.4	27.0	99.1
RENT	0.3	0.9	5.8	8.5	12.8
FUEL, ELECTRICITY & ICE	1.5	3.8	10.5	23.8	40.3
Gas & electricity	0.1	0.4	2.7	2.6	-4.5
Other fuels & ice	2.2	5.6	15.1	38.7	84.9
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	0.2	1.4	6.6	25.8	95.1
MISCELLANEOUS	1.1	3.3	9.0	19.2	51.3

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 10 CITIES*
SURVEYED MONTHLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM JULY 15 AND
MAY 15, 1948 TO AUGUST 15, 1948 BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
August 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Birmingham, Ala.	179.3	219.3	207.0	138.7	135.6	79.6	177.3	192.3	149.3
Boston, Mass.	168.7	208.8	190.7	-	152.3	112.3	173.6	186.9	143.8
Chicago, Ill.	178.8	223.6	200.6	-	131.0	83.5	180.6	180.4	152.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	175.7	218.1	197.5	-	141.1	95.1	185.0	189.6	153.0
Detroit, Mich.	176.1	210.1	197.8	-	149.7	86.7	197.4	207.6	166.1
Houston, Texas	175.2	223.8	210.9	121.1	98.4	81.8	146.1	199.3	152.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	171.0	212.7	194.8	123.9	94.0	89.3	116.4	187.0	151.7
New York, N.Y.	173.3	216.9	200.3	-	132.9	100.5	182.5	186.7	157.7
Philadelphia, Pa.	174.8	212.5	194.2	119.2	142.6	103.0	173.1	202.7	149.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	178.3	220.9	229.1	-	138.8	103.4	199.7	203.7	146.5
Percent Changes from July 15, 1948									
Birmingham, Ala.	1.3	0.6	0.8	-	0	0	0	0.3	3.8
Boston, Mass.	0.1	-0.7	1.2	-	1.9	0.2	2.5	0.3	0.6
Chicago, Ill.	0.1	-0.5	1.4	-	0.7	0	1.2	-0.6	1.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.1	-1.0	2.2	-	0	0	0	-1.0	0.5
Detroit, Mich.	0.1	-1.5	1.8	-	1.6	0	2.1	1.0	1.3
Houston, Texas	0.9	0.8	1.3	-	0	0	0	0.1	1.0
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.4	-0.2	-0.5	-	-0.3	0	-1.4	0.6	1.0
New York, N. Y.	0.4	-0.5	1.8	-	1.5	0	2.7	1.4	1.5
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.1	0.8	0.5	-	4.8	0	7.2	1.9	1.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0.3	-0.6	2.2	-	1.2	0	2.1	0.3	1.0
Percent Changes from May 15, 1948									
Birmingham, Ala.	3.2	4.6	1.2	0.9	2.9	0	3.9	0.6	4.2
Boston, Mass.	2.8	4.8	0.8	-	2.8	0.6	3.6	2.2	0.6
Chicago, Ill.	2.2	2.4	0.7	-	4.2	0	6.5	0.9	3.9
Cincinnati, Ohio	2.0	2.2	2.3	-	2.5	0	3.9	-0.1	2.7
Detroit, Mich.	1.7	1.0	1.4	-	5.6	3.3	6.3	2.1	2.4
Houston, Texas	2.2	2.6	1.0	1.3	4.3	0	14.1	2.0	2.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.1	0	-0.5	2.5	-0.3	0	-1.4	-0.3	3.5
New York, N. Y.	3.5	3.3	2.2	-	3.0	0.6	5.1	2.2	7.8
Philadelphia, Pa.	2.6	3.7	0.2	0.9	5.6	0	8.4	3.1	1.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	2.8	3.4	3.0	-	3.3	0.1	6.3	1.4	1.8

See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 8 CITIES*
SURVEYED QUARTERLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM MAY 15, 1948
TO AUGUST 15, 1948, BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Ice			House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity	Other Fuels & Ice		
August 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)									
Atlanta, Ga.	176.2	215.7	206.7	120.0	148.2	76.9	213.8	200.6	155.1
Cleveland, Ohio	179.3	229.0	196.3	124.3	143.6	105.6	179.9	184.0	152.2
Milwaukee, Wisc.	174.5	218.8	200.8	116.7	145.2	104.5	173.2	196.4	148.7
New Orleans, La.	179.8	228.5	209.1	112.1	113.0	75.1	153.2	192.7	144.7
Norfolk, Va.	176.2	220.5	196.3	115.2	147.8	97.8	187.1	195.3	150.2
Scranton, Pa.	174.7	217.3	205.2	108.1	144.5	91.8	176.7	184.5	141.1
Seattle, Wash.	176.2	221.9	195.5	122.2	124.2	91.5	151.4	197.2	154.7
Washington, D. C.	169.2	214.9	219.8	103.5	136.9	98.6	162.5	201.1	152.1
Percent Changes from May 15, 1948									
Atlanta, Ga.	3.2	3.8	3.1	2.1	2.7	0	3.7	4.8	2.3
Cleveland, Ohio	3.2	5.0	0.3	0.3	3.1	0	4.9	1.9	3.4
Milwaukee, Wisc.	2.0	2.4	0.4	0.6	4.2	2.9	4.7	1.2	2.7
New Orleans, La.	1.9	2.5	1.8	0.8	0.2	0	0.2	2.4	1.3
Norfolk, Va.	2.5	3.4	1.0	1.0	3.1	0	4.5	3.0	2.0
Scranton, Pa.	2.6	2.4	1.5	1.3	7.4	0	10.0	2.0	3.5
Seattle, Wash.	1.1	0.2	1.9	0.7	1.7	0	2.6	3.8	1.8
Washington, D. C.	1.5	2.5	-0.1	0.5	4.6	4.4	4.8	-1.7	2.0

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 18 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES TO AUGUST 15, 1948 FROM
SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100				Percent Change to August 15, 1948 from		
	Aug. 15 1948	Aug. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939	Aug. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	174.5	160.3	133.3	98.6	8.9	30.9	77.0
Atlanta, Ga.	176.2	162.2	133.8	98.0	8.6	31.7	79.8
Birmingham, Ala.	179.3	166.6	136.5	98.5	7.6	31.4	82.0
Boston, Mass.	168.7	154.5	127.9	97.1	9.2	31.9	73.7
Chicago, Ill.	178.8	162.7	130.9	98.7	9.9	36.6	81.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	175.7	162.2	132.2	97.3	8.3	32.9	80.6
Cleveland, Ohio	179.3	163.0	135.7	100.0	10.0	32.1	79.3
Detroit, Mich.	176.1	162.8	136.4	98.5	8.2	29.1	78.8
Houston, Texas	175.2	159.7	130.5	100.7	9.7	34.3	74.0
Los Angeles, Calif.	171.0	157.8	136.1	100.5	8.4	25.6	70.1
Milwaukee, Wisc.	174.5	159.0	131.2	97.0	9.7	33.0	79.9
New Orleans, La.	179.8	168.5	138.0	99.7	6.7	30.3	80.3
New York, N. Y.	173.3	158.6	135.8	99.0	9.3	27.6	75.1
Norfolk, Va.	176.2	163.6	135.2	97.8	7.7	30.3	80.2
Philadelphia, Pa.	174.8	159.5	132.5	97.8	9.6	31.9	78.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	178.3	164.9	134.7	98.4	8.1	32.4	81.2
Scranton, Pa.	174.7	162.8	132.2	96.0	7.3	32.1	82.0
Seattle, Wash.	176.2	161.8	137.0	100.3	8.9	28.6	75.7
Washington, D. C.	169.2	159.1	133.8	98.6	6.3	26.5	71.6

*See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 6 - AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
AUGUST 15, 1948

Food and Unit	Aug. 15 Average Cents	Food and Unit	Aug. 15 Average Cents
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS		EGGS, fresh, doz.	
Cereals:			76.3
Flour, wheat, 5 lb.	47.9	FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:	
Corn flakes, 11 oz.	16.7	Fresh:	
Corn meal, lb.	11.1	Apples, lb.	11.8
Rice, lb.	21.6	Bananas, lb.	16.4
Rollied oats, 20 oz.	17.1	Oranges, size 200, doz.	51.8
Bakery products:		Beans, green, lb.	19.2
Bread, white, lb.	13.9	Cabbage, lb.	5.3
Vanilla cookies, lb.	44.3	Carrots, bunch	9.9
		Lettuce, head	11.8
MEATS:		Onions, lb.	7.3
Beef:		Potatoes, 15 lb.	80.3
Round steak, lb.	101.2	Spinach, lb.	1/
Rib roast, lb.	81.5	Sweetpotatoes, lb.	12.2
Chuck roast, lb.	72.3	Canned:	
Hamburger, lb.	62.6	Peaches, #2-1/2 can	31.4
Veal:		Pineapple, #2-1/2 can	37.0
Cutlets, lb.	103.5	Corn, #2 can	19.7
Pork:		Peas, #2 can	15.1
Chops, lb.	91.1	Tomatoes, #2 can	16.4
Bacon, sliced, lb.	78.6	Dried:	
Ham, whole, lb.	73.8	Prunes, lb.	20.8
Salt pork, lb.	40.5	Navy beans, lb.	23.0
Lamb:		BEVERAGES:	
Leg, lb.	76.9	Coffee, lb.	51.5
Poultry:		FATS AND OILS:	
Roasting chickens, lb.	62.7	Lard, lb.	29.4
Fish:		Shortening, hydrogenated, lb.	43.4
Salmon, pink, 16 oz. can	54.7	Salad dressing, pt.	40.8
		Oleomargarine, lb.	42.9
DAIRY PRODUCTS:		SUGAR AND SWEETS:	
Butter, lb.	89.4	Sugar, lb.	9.3
Cheese, lb.	69.8		
Milk, fresh (delivered), qt.	22.1		
Milk, fresh (grocery) qt.	21.3		
Milk, evaporated, 14-1/2 oz. can	15.6		

* See General Explanation on page 3.

1/ Inadequate reports.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDEXES FOR 38 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM JULY 15 AND MAY 15, 1948
TO AUGUST 15, 1948, BY CITIES

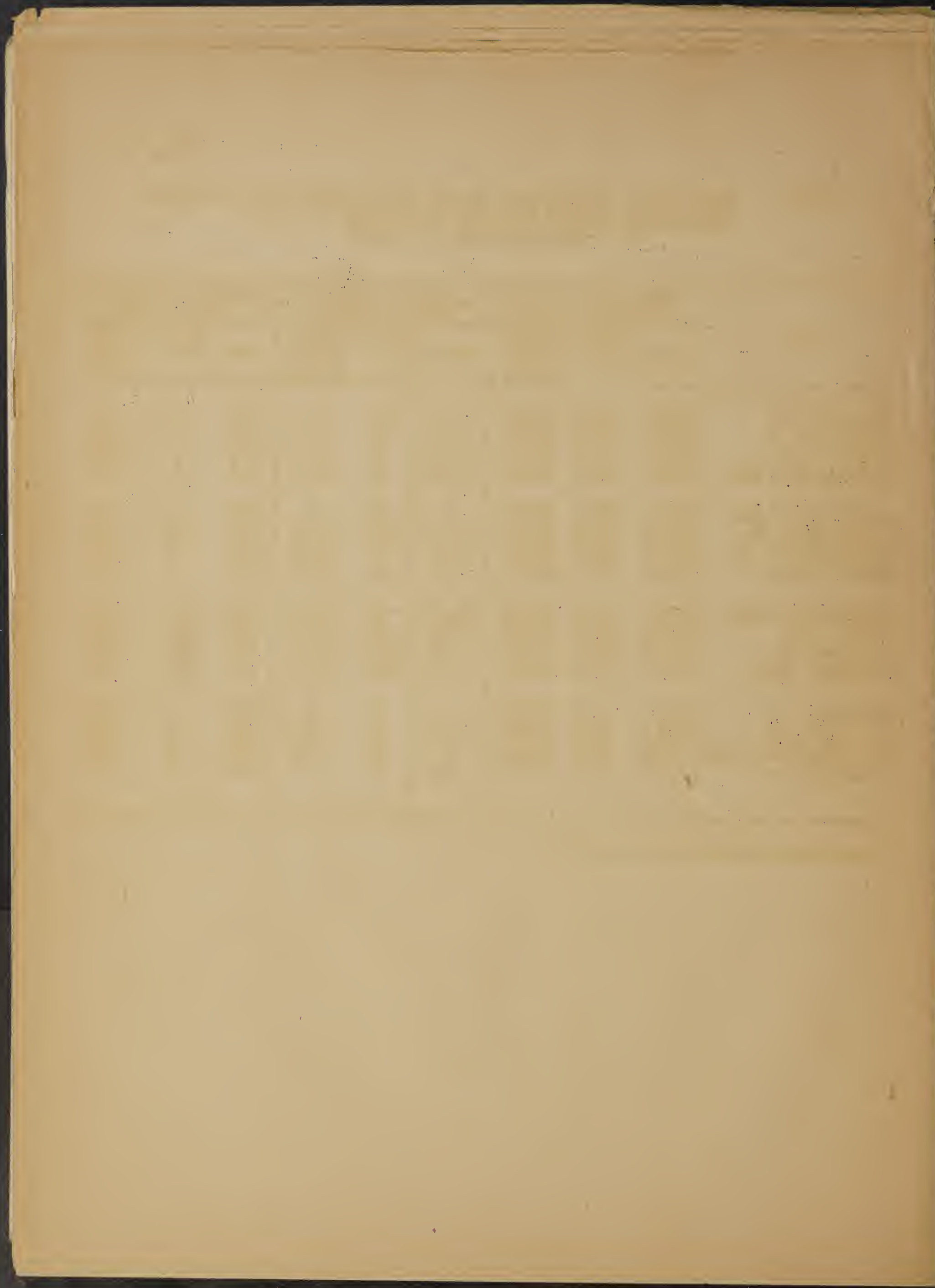
City	Indexes (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to August 15, 1948 from	
	Aug. 15 1948	July 15 1948	May 15 1948	July 15 1948	May 15 1948
Baltimore, Md.	228.9	227.7	221.6	0.5	3.3
Bridgeport, Conn.	214.6	214.4	207.5	0.1	3.4
Buffalo, N. Y.	213.0	212.9	207.9	0	2.5
Butte, Mont.	215.1	216.6	207.4	-0.7	3.7
Cedar Rapids, Iowa <u>1/</u>	222.2	224.4	219.7	-1.0	1.1
Charleston, S. C.	208.0	211.4	206.7	-1.6	0.6
Columbus, Ohio	202.2	201.9	195.3	0.1	3.5
Dallas, Texas	215.2	213.3	210.5	0.9	2.2
Denver, Colo.	213.1	217.0	213.3	-1.8	-0.1
Fall River, Mass.	213.5	214.1	207.2	-0.3	3.0
Indianapolis, Ind.	217.1	212.6	208.0	2.1	4.4
Jackson, Miss. <u>1/</u>	220.6	220.8	218.0	-0.1	1.2
Jacksonville, Fla.	220.7	222.8	217.3	-0.9	1.6
Kansas City, Mo.	205.4	204.4	202.2	0.5	1.6
Knoxville, Tenn. <u>1/</u>	244.6	241.7	236.2	1.2	3.6
Little Rock, Ark.	212.4	213.4	209.2	-0.5	1.5
Louisville, Ky.	207.4	206.8	201.6	0.3	2.9
Manchester, N. H.	217.8	218.4	208.9	-0.3	4.3
Memphis, Tenn.	227.1	229.8	223.2	-1.2	1.7
Minneapolis, Minn.	209.2	208.2	206.0	0.5	1.6
Mobile, Ala.	222.7	222.5	217.0	0.1	2.6
Newark, N. J.	212.6	212.8	204.7	-0.1	3.9
New Haven, Conn.	205.6	208.3	201.2	-1.3	2.2
Omaha, Nebr.	211.1	208.6	207.2	1.2	1.9
Peoria, Ill.	230.8	224.9	223.8	2.6	3.1
Portland, Me.	209.8	209.7	199.4	0	5.2
Portland, Oreg.	234.1	233.7	229.5	0.2	2.0
Providence, R. I.	227.2	224.9	217.9	1.0	4.3
Richmond, Va.	211.7	209.4	203.4	1.1	4.1
Rochester, N. Y.	209.7	211.2	205.1	-0.7	2.2
St. Louis, Mo.	225.3	224.2	218.2	0.5	3.3
St. Paul, Minn.	204.5	204.7	203.5	-0.1	0.5
Salt Lake City, Utah	216.0	217.1	216.8	-0.5	-0.4
San Francisco, Calif.	224.3	223.2	223.4	0.5	0.4
Savannah, Ga.	223.3	228.3	223.3	-2.2	0
Springfield, Ill.	227.0	224.9	219.3	0.9	3.5
Wichita, Kans. <u>1/</u>	224.7	226.7	225.3	-0.9	-0.3
Winston-Salem, N. C. <u>1/</u>	215.8	212.9	208.4	1.4	3.6

* See General Explanation on page 3.
1/ June 1940 = 100.

TABLE 8 - RETAIL FUEL, ELECTRICITY AND ICE PRICE INDEXES FOR 16 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM MAY 15 AND JULY 15, 1948
TO AUGUST 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Index Aug. 15, 1948 (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to August 15, 1948 from					
				July 15, 1948			May 15, 1948		
	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice	Total	Gas & Elec.	Other Fuels & Ice
Baltimore, Md.	148.1	121.8	169.3	2.6	0.5	3.9	6.1	0.6	9.5
Buffalo, N. Y.	139.1	96.0	177.4	0	0	0	6.4	0	9.8
Denver, Colo.	111.9	69.2	160.5	2.4	0	3.5	4.9	0	7.3
Indianapolis, Ind.	154.0	86.6	193.6	1.2	0	1.5	3.7	0	4.6
Jacksonville, Fla.	147.3	100.2	188.1	0	0	0	3.4	0	5.0
Kansas City, Mo.	127.6	66.7	183.2	0.5	0.5	0.4	5.7	0.3	7.6
Manchester, N. H.	155.7	94.6	186.2	1.9	0	2.4	3.2	0	4.0
Memphis, Tenn.	134.9	77.0	166.9	5.3	0	6.7	5.4	0	6.9
Minneapolis, Minn.	139.5	75.8	180.8	1.0	0	1.3	3.1	-3.4	5.0
Mobile, Ala.	129.4	84.0	164.7	1.3	0	1.7	0.6	0	0.9
Portland, Me.	150.7	108.5	171.3	3.9	8.1	2.7	4.9	8.0	4.1
Portland, Oreg.	127.8	94.9	168.1	0.5	-0.8	1.4	0.9	-0.6	1.9
Richmond, Va.	142.3	95.6	170.8	0	0	0	3.3	0	4.5
St. Louis, Mo.	138.3	94.1	177.4	0.9	0	1.3	3.6	0	5.4
San Francisco, Calif.	83.1	72.7	126.9	0	0	0	0.4	0	5.3
Savannah, Ga.	153.3	91.2	189.4	1.3	0	1.7	4.2	0	5.5

* See General Explanation on page 3.



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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL FOOD PRICES
September 15, 1948Consumers' Price Index Unchanged Between August 15 and September 15, 1948
But Retail Food Prices Decline

: This report combines information on the Consumers'
: Price Index and the Retail Food Price Index. Final indexes :
: for September 15, 1948 for individual cities and large cities :
: combined are given herein. :

Retail prices of goods and services bought by moderate-income families in large cities were unchanged on the average from August 15 to September 15, 1948, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. The consumers' price index on September 15, 1948 remained at 174.5 percent of the 1935-39 average, interrupting a continuous advance of five months. It was 6.5 percent higher than a year ago, 30.9 percent above June 1946, and 77.0 percent over the August 1939 level. A decline of 0.6 percent in retail prices of food was offset by higher prices for all other major groups. Apparel prices and residential rents advanced 0.7 percent during the month; housefurnishings rose 0.9 percent; fuel, electricity, and refrigeration 0.4 percent; and miscellaneous goods and services were 0.2 percent higher on the average.

Retail food prices declined from August 15 to September 15, contrary to the usual seasonal movement, to bring the index to 215.2 percent of the 1935-39 average. It was nevertheless 5.7 percent higher than a year ago; 47.8 percent above June 1946; and 130.2 percent over the August 1939 level. Primarily responsible for the drop this month were decreases of 1.9 percent for fruit and vegetable prices, 1.1 percent for prices of dairy products and 0.6 percent for meats, poultry, and fish. In addition, fats and oils declined 0.5 percent; and prices of cereals and bakery products were down 0.1 percent. Egg prices advanced 2.9 percent during the month, less than the usual seasonal rise, sugar and sweets prices rose 0.5 percent, and beverages were 0.1 percent higher.

Contra-seasonal price decreases of 5.3 percent for butter and 1.7 percent for cheese more than offset higher prices for fresh and evaporated milk. Beef and veal prices averaged 1.9 percent lower than a month ago and lamb prices dropped 3.8 percent. Higher prices were reported for pork, chicken, and fish.

Prices of fresh fruits and vegetables dropped 2.5 percent, much more than the usual decline in September. Decreases of 16.7 percent were reported for sweet-potatoes, 12.5 percent for onions, 10.3 percent for spinach, 5.7 percent for potatoes, and 3.7 percent for apples. Prices were higher for canned peaches and pineapple, while dried fruit and vegetable prices were unchanged on the average. Lower prices for oleomargarine (down 2.3 percent) and shortening (down 1.1 percent) more than offset small increases for lard and salad dressing. In the 56 cities surveyed, food prices decreased from August 15 to September 15 in 49 cities, rose in 3, and were unchanged in 4.

The index of apparel prices continued to advance from mid-August to mid-September, as higher prices were reported for men's overcoats and suits, women's wool dresses, and boys' wool suits and shirts. The apparel price index on September 15, 1948, was 201.0 percent of the 1935-39 average and 100.4 percent higher than in August 15, 1939. Apparel prices rose during the month in 9 of the 10 cities surveyed in both August and September, with increases of 1 percent or more in Birmingham, Chicago, Houston, New York, and Pittsburgh.

The fuel, electricity, and refrigeration group index rose 0.4 percent from August 15 to September 15. Increased rates for gas in Savannah were primarily responsible for a rise of 0.1 percent in the gas and electricity subgroup. Prices of other fuels were 0.5 percent higher on the average, reflecting higher prices for anthracite, bituminous coal and fuel oil. Ice prices rose 0.2 percent during the month.

Housefurnishings prices continued to advance between mid-August and mid-September. Higher prices were reported for bedroom furniture, electric refrigerators, and washing machines.

The rise of 0.2 percent in the group index for miscellaneous goods and services resulted chiefly from higher prices for automobiles. Slightly lower prices were reported for soap and household paper.

The 0.7 percent rise in residential rents from mid-August to mid-September reflected continuation of upward adjustments under the rent regulations and much larger increases for decontrolled units. In the 11 cities surveyed by the Bureau, rent increases from June 15 to September 15 ranged from 0.6 percent in Minneapolis and Portland, Maine to 2.8 percent in St. Louis. Increases of 1 percent or more were reported in Baltimore, Mobile, Chicago, Cincinnati, Boston, and Jacksonville.

: On October 24, immediately upon completion of the calculations;
: the Bureau released the September 1948 Consumers' Price Index for large
: cities combined and for each of the 18 cities through the public press.
: Because of the very large number of people on the Bureau's mailing list,
: about a week is required to reproduce and distribute this detailed report.:

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities. Time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services are weighted by 1934-36 average expenditures of families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36. City data are combined for the United States with the use of population weights.

The indexes do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first 3 days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month.

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. (Effective with this release the group index formerly titled "Fuel, Electricity, and Ice" will be designated "Fuel, Electricity, and Refrigeration." No change has been made in the items included in the group. Indexes are comparable with those previously published for "Fuel, Electricity, and Ice." The subgroup "Other Fuels and Ice" has been discontinued, and separate indexes will be presented for "Other Fuels" and "Ice.")

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Oreg.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Rental information is obtained quarterly in each city. The Bureau of Labor Statistics obtains its figures on rents by asking tenants in a representative sample of dwellings what rent they pay and what facilities and services are included in the rent. The samples are chosen to represent all tenant dwellings, new and old, small and large, single homes and apartments. The rents, so reported, are then compared with those reported by the tenants for the same dwellings at the time of the last rent survey, after adjustments are made for any changes in the facilities (e.g., heat) and services (e.g., janitor service) included in the rent. Removal of facilities and services without compensating reductions in rent are treated as rent increases. When facilities or services not previously included in the contract rent are added, if the rent is increased in excess of the value of the additional items, the excess charge is reflected as a rent increase. Just as in the case of the other groups (food, apparel, etc.) of the consumers' price index, the rent index measures changes

in the rent paid for the same dwellings from one time to another, not the amount of money which families spend for housing. For example, it does not reflect the costs of repairs made by tenants, the change in housing costs of workers who have migrated or moved to better or poorer quarters, nor does it take into account deterioration in upkeep or service, or the additional costs of "extras" or premiums charged by some landlords when they rent to new tenants. A representation of new and converted units is added to the rent samples periodically and thereafter rent changes for these units are reflected in the index as they occur. The index is not adjusted to reflect the differences between the rents at which newly constructed or converted dwellings enter the rental market and the rents for comparable existing housing. The rent index measures only changes in rents, and does not reflect the costs of shifting from renting to owning, or changes in the costs of buying or maintaining owner-occupied homes.

Tables in this release contain index numbers for the current and other specified periods and show percent changes to the current period from specified dates.

Table 1 shows indexes for all items combined, groups and subgroups for large cities combined, for the current period, a month ago, 3 months ago, a year ago, June 1946 and August 1939.

Table 2 shows percent changes to the current period for indexes given in Table 1.

Table 3 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the month and over the quarter for each of 10 cities surveyed monthly.

Table 4 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the quarter for each of 8 cities surveyed quarterly.

Table 5 shows indexes for all items combined for specified periods and percent changes to the current period from specified dates for 18 cities surveyed this month.

Table 6 shows current U.S. average prices for 50 food items.

Table 7 shows food price indexes for the current period, a month ago and 3 months ago, and corresponding percent changes for 38 cities for which only food price data are collected or for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

Table 8 shows fuel price indexes for the current period and percent changes to the current period from a month ago and 3 months ago for 18 cities for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
(1935-39 = 100.0)

Group	Sept. 15 1948	Aug. 15 1948	June 15 1948	Sept. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	174.5	174.5	171.7	163.8	133.3	98.6
ALL FOODS	215.2	216.6	214.1	203.5	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	170.7	170.8	171.2	157.8	122.1	93.4
Meats, poultry & fish	265.3	267.0	255.1	240.6	134.0	95.7
Meats	265.9	269.3	255.2	241.9	120.4	95.4
Beef & veal	280.8	286.2	273.9	239.7	121.2	99.6
Pork	247.9	246.1	223.5	245.9	114.3	88.0
Lamb	256.6	266.6	271.2	244.0	139.0	98.8
Chickens	209.4	207.8	207.6	191.4	162.8	94.6
Fish	314.9	304.4	299.3	275.7	219.7	99.6
Dairy products	208.7	211.0	205.9	195.2	147.8	93.1
Eggs	226.6	220.2	194.2	235.9	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	195.8	199.6	214.9	198.2	183.5	92.4
Fresh	199.6	204.8	225.2	202.4	196.7	92.8
Canned	159.0	157.8	157.4	157.3	127.5	91.6
Dried	249.1	249.2	248.0	261.2	172.5	90.3
Beverages	205.6	205.3	205.1	187.0	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	196.8	197.8	200.5	176.6	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	173.2	172.3	170.6	181.1	136.2	95.6
APPAREL	201.0	199.7	196.9	187.6	157.2	100.3
RENT	118.5	117.7	117.0	113.6	108.5	104.3
FUEL, ELEC. & REFRIGERATION*	137.3	136.8	132.6	124.6	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	94.6	94.5	94.2	92.1	92.1	99.0
Other fuels	191.0	190.1	180.6	164.0	133.0	95.2
Ice	137.6	137.3	134.2	129.6	115.1	100.0
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	198.1	196.3	194.8	187.5	156.1	100.6
MISCELLANEOUS	152.7	152.4	147.5	140.8	127.9	100.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*, AND PERCENT
CHANGES TO SEPTEMBER 15, 1948 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS

Group	Aug. 15 1948	June 15 1948	Sept. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	0	1.6	6.5	30.9	77.0
ALL FOODS	-0.6	0.5	5.7	47.8	130.2
Cereals & bakery products	-0.1	-0.3	8.2	39.8	82.8
Meats, poultry & fish	-0.6	4.0	10.3	98.0	177.2
Meats	-1.3	4.2	9.9	120.8	178.7
Beef & veal	-1.9	2.5	17.1	131.7	181.9
Pork	0.7	10.9	0.8	116.9	181.7
Lamb	-3.8	-5.4	5.2	84.6	159.7
Chickens	0.8	0.9	9.4	28.6	121.4
Fish	3.4	5.2	14.2	43.3	216.2
Dairy products	-1.1	1.4	6.9	41.2	124.2
Eggs	2.9	16.7	-3.9	54.0	149.8
Fruits & vegetables	-1.9	-8.9	-1.2	6.7	111.9
Fresh	-2.5	-11.4	-1.4	1.5	115.1
Canned	0.8	1.0	1.1	24.7	73.6
Dried	0	0.4	-4.6	44.4	175.9
Beverages	0.1	0.2	9.9	64.0	116.6
Fats & oils	-0.5	-1.8	11.4	55.7	132.9
Sugar & sweets	0.5	1.5	-4.4	27.2	81.2
APPAREL	0.7	2.1	7.1	27.9	100.4
RENT	0.7	1.3	4.3	9.2	13.6
FUEL, ELEC. & REFRIGERATION*	0.4	3.5	10.2	24.3	40.8
Gas & electricity	0.1	0.4	2.7	2.7	-4.4
Other fuels	0.5	5.8	16.5	43.6	100.6
Ice	0.2	2.5	6.2	19.5	37.6
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	0.9	1.7	5.7	26.9	96.9
MISCELLANEOUS	0.2	3.5	8.5	19.4	52.1

* See General Explanation on page 3.

September 1948

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 10 CITIES*
 SURVEYED MONTHLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM AUGUST 15 AND
 JUNE 15, 1948 TO SEPTEMBER 15, 1948 BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Refrigeration*		House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity		
September 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)								
Birmingham, Ala.	178.6	216.3	209.0	-	135.6	79.6	192.1	149.3
Boston, Mass.	169.0	207.2	192.3	114.6	153.0	112.5	189.4	144.7
Chicago, Ill.	179.4	221.4	203.6	133.7	131.5	83.5	183.4	154.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	176.3	218.0	198.1	114.1	141.8	95.1	190.3	153.9
Detroit, Mich.	175.4	207.6	198.5	-	150.6	87.3	206.4	166.5
Houston, Texas	175.4	223.7	213.2	-	99.6	81.8	198.4	152.5
Los Angeles, Calif.	171.0	212.1	194.5	-	94.0	89.3	189.0	152.1
New York, N. Y.	173.3	216.2	202.9	-	133.3	100.6	187.5	157.0
Philadelphia, Pa.	174.8	212.0	195.0	-	142.6	103.0	204.6	150.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	178.3	219.5	232.8	-	138.8	103.4	205.0	146.6
Percent Changes from August 15, 1948								
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.4	-1.4	1.0	-	0	0	-0.1	0
Boston, Mass.	0.2	-0.8	0.8	-	0.5	0.2	1.3	0.6
Chicago, Ill.	0.3	-1.0	1.5	-	0.4	0	1.7	1.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	0.3	0	0.3	-	0.5	0	0.4	0.6
Detroit, Mich.	-0.4	-1.2	0.4	-	0.6	0.7	-0.6	0.2
Houston, Texas	0.1	0	1.1	-	1.2	0	-0.5	-0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	0	-0.3	-0.2	-	0	0	1.1	0.3
New York, N. Y.	0	-0.3	1.3	-	0.3	0.1	0.4	-0.4
Philadelphia, Pa.	0	-0.2	0.4	-	0	0	0.9	0.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	0	-0.6	1.6	-	0	0	0.6	0.1
Percent Changes from June 15, 1948								
Birmingham, Ala.	2.2	1.7	1.8	-	2.9	0	0.6	4.5
Boston, Mass.	1.7	1.5	2.0	1.8	2.9	0.7	2.5	1.5
Chicago, Ill.	1.8	0	2.2	1.7	4.3	0	2.0	5.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	1.6	0.8	2.8	1.8	3.2	0	-0.2	3.0
Detroit, Mich.	0.5	-1.8	1.7	-	5.1	4.1	1.0	2.7
Houston, Texas	1.7	1.7	2.1	-	5.6	0	-0.2	1.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.3	0	-0.9	-	-0.3	0	1.9	4.0
New York, N. Y.	2.5	1.1	3.6	-	2.5	0.1	2.4	7.0
Philadelphia, Pa.	1.6	1.2	0.9	-	4.8	0	3.8	1.8
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1.5	0	3.9	-	3.3	0	2.5	1.9

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 8 CITIES*
SURVEYED QUARTERLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM JUNE 15, 1948
TO SEPTEMBER 15, 1948, BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Refrigeration*		House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity		
September 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)								
Baltimore, Md.	179.2	228.7	200.8	115.6	148.0	121.3	203.5	149.0
Jacksonville, Fla.	179.1	219.3	197.7	127.1	146.9	100.2	186.3	160.1
Memphis, Tenn.	177.1	227.8	210.5	128.0	135.0	77.0	180.7	141.4
Minneapolis, Minn.	173.8	206.0	205.9	126.6	139.6	75.8	195.2	159.9
Mobile, Ala.	177.3	222.1	206.7	125.5	129.8	84.0	178.6	145.1
Portland, Me.	170.7	207.0	200.6	112.4	154.4	108.5	191.2	151.0
St. Louis, Mo.	175.0	223.0	202.2	119.6	138.3	94.1	174.8	144.9
San Francisco, Calif.	177.1	224.2	196.7	115.3	83.1	72.7	165.2	162.4
Percent Changes from June 15, 1948								
Baltimore, Md.	1.8	1.5	1.2	1.0	4.0	-0.3	1.7	2.4
Jacksonville, Fla.	0.4	-1.6	2.0	2.3	1.2	0	0.8	2.2
Memphis, Tenn.	1.4	0.5	0.7	0.9	5.4	0	0.2	3.1
Minneapolis, Minn.	1.4	-0.1	0.7	0.6	0.3	-3.4	2.4	4.9
Mobile, Ala.	2.2	1.0	2.2	1.2	2.0	0	3.0	5.0
Portland, Me.	2.0	1.4	1.7	0.6	6.8	8.0	0.8	2.4
St. Louis, Mo.	1.7	0.5	2.7	2.8	2.5	0	2.2	2.9
San Francisco, Calif.	1.7	1.2	3.1	0.7	0	0	2.4	2.3

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 18 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES TO SEPTEMBER 15, 1948 FROM
SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100				Percent Changes to September 15, 1948 from		
	Sept. 15 1948	Sept. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939	Sept. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	174.5	163.8	133.3	98.6	6.5	30.9	77.0
Baltimore, Md.	179.2	167.8	135.6	98.7	6.8	32.2	81.6
Birmingham, Ala.	178.6	169.1	136.5	98.5	5.6	30.8	81.3
Boston, Mass.	169.0	158.6	127.9	97.1	6.6	32.1	74.0
Chicago, Ill.	179.4	168.3	130.9	98.7	6.6	37.1	81.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	176.3	166.3	132.2	97.3	6.0	33.4	81.2
Detroit, Mich.	175.4	164.2	136.4	98.5	6.8	28.6	78.1
Houston, Texas	175.4	162.1	130.5	100.7	8.2	34.4	74.2
Jacksonville, Fla.	179.1	168.5	138.4	98.5	6.3	29.4	81.8
Los Angeles, Calif.	171.0	161.6	136.1	100.5	5.8	25.6	70.1
Memphis, Tenn.	177.1	169.0	134.5	97.8	4.8	31.7	81.1
Minneapolis, Minn.	173.8	162.1	129.4	99.7	7.2	34.3	74.3
Mobile, Ala.	177.3	164.3	132.9	98.6	7.9	33.4	79.8
New York, N. Y.	173.3	161.9	135.8	99.0	7.0	27.6	75.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	174.8	163.2	132.5	97.8	7.1	31.9	78.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	178.3	168.2	134.7	98.4	6.0	32.4	81.2
Portland, Me.	170.7	159.2	128.7	97.1	7.2	32.6	75.8
St. Louis, Mo.	175.0	165.4	131.2	98.1	5.8	33.4	78.4
San Francisco, Calif.	177.1	165.7	137.8	99.3	6.9	28.5	78.3

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 6 - AVERAGE PRICES OF FOOD IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
SEPTEMBER 15, 1948

Food and Unit	Sept. 15 Average Cents	Food and Unit	Sept. 15 Average Cents
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS		EGGS, fresh, doz.	
Cereals:			78.4
Flour, wheat, 5 lb.	47.8	FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:	
Corn flakes, 11 oz.	16.7	Fresh:	
Corn meal, lb.	11.0	Apples, lb.	11.3
Rice, lb.	21.6	Bananas, lb.	16.3
Rolled oats, 20 oz.	17.1	Oranges, size 200, doz.	52.9
Bakery products:		Beans, green, lb.	18.7
Bread, white, lb.	13.9	Cabbage, lb.	5.2
Vanilla cookies, lb.	44.4	Carrots, bunch	10.2
MEATS:		Lettuce, head	12.9
Beef:		Onions, lb.	6.4
Round steak, lb.	98.9	Potatoes, 15 lb.	75.7
Rib roast, lb.	79.9	Spinach, lb.	13.2
Chuck roast, lb.	70.7	Sweetpotatoes, lb.	10.2
Hamburger, lb.	61.6	Canned:	
Veal:		Peaches, #2-1/2 can	31.8
Cutlets, lb.	103.1	Pineapple, #2-1/2 can	38.0
Pork:		Corn, #2 can	19.8
Chops, lb.	91.8	Peas, #2 can	15.3
Bacon, sliced, lb.	79.0	Tomatoes, #2 can	16.5
Ham, whole, lb.	74.4	Dried:	
Salt pork, lb.	40.9	Prunes, lb.	20.9
Lamb:		Navy beans, lb.	22.9
Leg, lb.	74.0	BEVERAGES:	
Poultry:		Coffee, lb.	51.6
Roasting chickens, lb.	63.2	FATS AND OILS:	
Fish:		Lard, lb.	29.6
Salmon, pink, 16 oz. can	56.3	Shortening, hydrogenated, lb.	43.0
DAIRY PRODUCTS:		Salad dressing, pt.	40.8
Butter, lb.	84.7	Oleomargarine, lb.	41.9
Cheese, lb.	68.7	SUGAR AND SWEETS:	
Milk, fresh (delivered), qt.	22.7	Sugar, lb.	9.3
Milk, fresh (grocery), qt.	21.4		
Milk, evaporated, 14-1/2 oz. can	15.8		

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDEXES FOR 38 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM AUGUST 15 AND JUNE 15, 1948
TO SEPTEMBER 15, 1948, BY CITIES

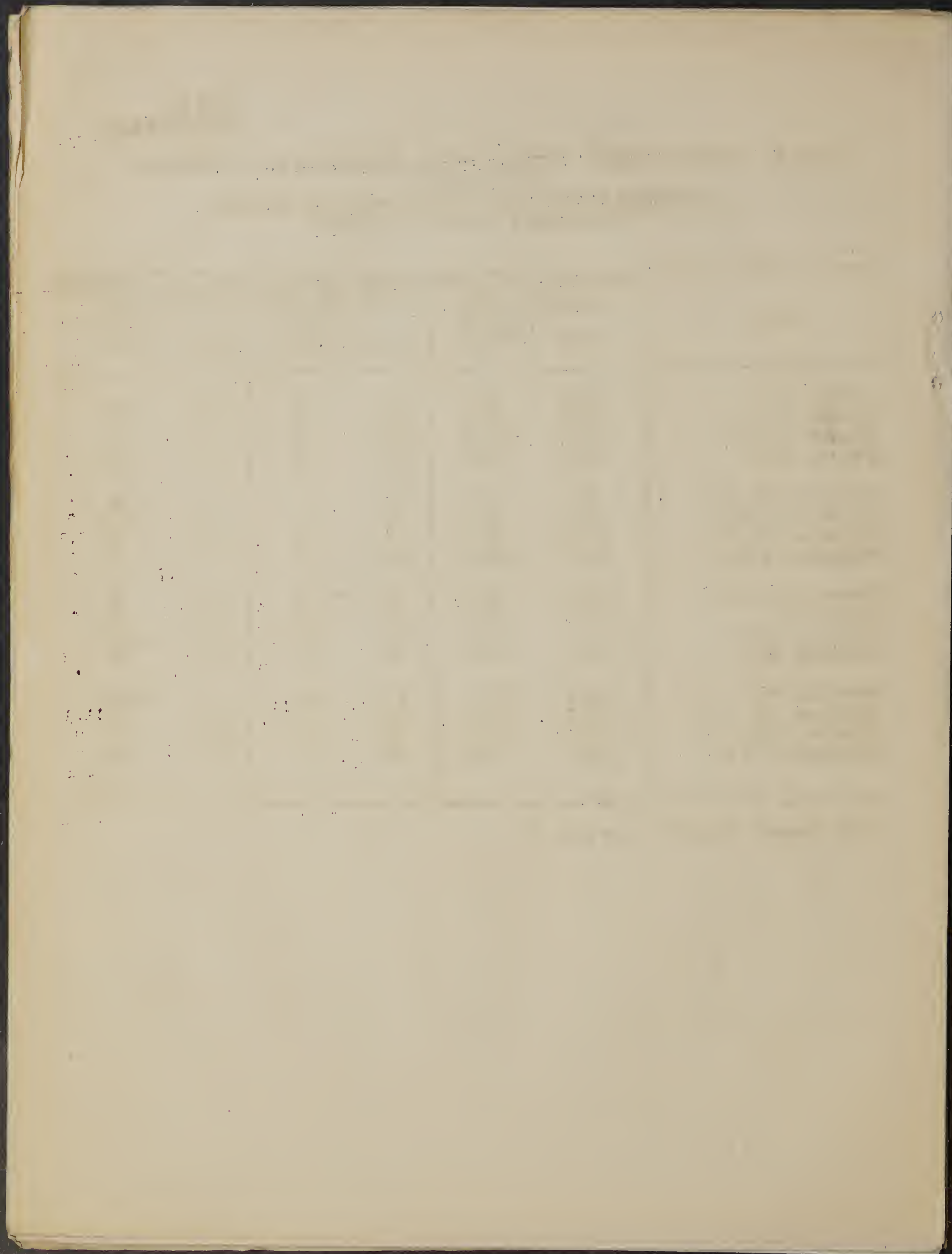
City	Indexes (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to Sept. 15, 1948 from	
	Sept. 15 1948	Aug. 15 1948	June 15 1948	Aug. 15 1948	June 15 1948
Atlanta, Ga.	214.2	215.7	209.9	-0.7	2.6
Bridgeport, Conn.	212.7	214.6	210.3	-0.9	1.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	210.1	213.0	211.6	-1.4	-0.7
Butte, Mont.	214.5	215.1	214.7	-0.3	-0.1
Cedar Rapids, Iowa ^{1/}	220.2	222.2	224.3	-0.9	-1.8
Charleston, S. C.	207.7	208.0	208.1	-0.1	-0.2
Cleveland, Ohio	225.6	229.9	223.7	-1.5	0.8
Columbus, Ohio	200.8	202.2	199.2	-0.7	0.8
Dallas, Texas	217.3	215.2	210.8	1.0	3.1
Denver, Colo.	210.5	213.1	216.5	-1.2	-2.8
Fall River, Mass.	211.6	213.5	211.3	-0.9	0.1
Indianapolis, Ind.	216.0	217.1	211.5	-0.5	2.1
Jackson, Miss.	220.7	220.6	216.7	0	1.8
Kansas City, Mo.	204.4	205.4	204.4	-0.5	0
Knoxville, Tenn. ^{1/}	241.6	244.6	238.4	-1.2	1.3
Little Rock, Ark.	212.0	212.4	210.0	-0.2	1.0
Louisville, Ky.	207.2	207.4	203.8	-0.1	1.7
Manchester, N. H.	215.5	217.8	213.0	-1.1	1.2
Milwaukee, Wisc.	216.3	218.8	215.3	-1.1	0.5
Newark, N. J.	211.1	212.6	209.9	-0.7	0.6
New Haven, Conn.	205.3	205.6	205.4	-0.1	0
New Orleans, La.	227.7	228.5	227.3	-0.4	0.2
Norfolk, Va.	220.2	220.5	214.4	-0.1	2.7
Omaha, Nebr.	210.3	211.1	210.1	-0.4	0.1
Peoria, Ill.	230.3	230.8	227.3	-0.2	1.3
Portland, Oreg.	231.4	234.1	228.2	-1.2	1.4
Providence, R. I.	223.8	227.2	222.0	-1.5	0.8
Richmond, Va.	214.1	211.7	205.3	1.1	4.3
Rochester, N. Y.	207.3	209.7	208.8	-1.1	-0.7
St. Paul, Minn.	203.1	204.5	203.7	-0.7	-0.3
Salt Lake City, Utah	214.7	216.0	215.8	-0.6	-0.5
Savannah, Ga.	222.4	223.3	224.5	-0.4	-0.9
Scranton, Pa.	213.2	217.3	216.1	-1.9	-1.3
Seattle, Wash.	221.0	221.9	220.3	-0.4	0.3
Springfield, Ill.	226.4	227.0	224.4	-0.3	0.9
Washington, D. C.	212.9	214.9	215.4	-0.9	-1.2
Wichita, Kans. ^{1/}	223.0	224.7	226.4	-0.8	-1.5
Winston-Salem, N. C. ^{1/}	215.6	215.8	209.5	-0.1	2.9

* See General Explanation on page 3.
^{1/} June 1940 = 100.

TABLE 8 - INDEXES OF RETAIL PRICES OF FUELS, ELECTRICITY AND REFRIGERATION
FOR 16 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM AUGUST 15 AND JUNE 15, 1948
TO SEPTEMBER 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Index Sept. 15, 1948 (1935-39 = 100)		Percent Change to Sept. 15, 1948 from			
	Total	Gas & Elec.	August 15, 1948		June 15, 1948	
			Total	Gas & Elec.	Total	Gas & Elec.
Atlanta, Ga.	148.2	76.9	0	0	2.7	-0.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	140.2	96.0	0.8	0	5.7	0
Cleveland, Ohio	144.7	105.6	0.8	0	3.7	0
Denver, Colo.	112.6	69.2	0.6	0	5.5	0
Indianapolis, Ind.	154.6	86.6	0.4	0	4.1	0
Kansas City, Mo.	127.6	66.7	0	0	5.7	0.3
Manchester, N. H.	155.7	94.6	0	0	2.3	0
Milwaukee, Wisc.	145.5	104.5	0.2	0	2.7	0
New Orleans, La.	113.0	75.1	0	0	0.1	0
Norfolk, Va.	147.8	97.8	0	0	1.6	0
Portland, Oreg.	129.3	95.3	1.2	0.4	1.8	-0.2
Richmond, Va.	142.3	95.6	0	0	3.0	0
Savannah, Ga.	155.8	101.5	1.6	11.3	2.9	11.3
Scranton, Pa.	144.7	91.8	0.1	0	6.3	0
Seattle, Wash.	124.2	91.5	0	0	1.1	0
Washington, D. C.	137.3	98.6	0.3	0	4.6	4.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.



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UNIVERSITY OF CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL FOOD PRICES
October 15, 1948

Consumers' Prices Decline 0.5 Percent from September 15 to October 15
as Retail Food Prices Continue to Drop

: This report combines information on the Consumers' :
: Price Index and the Retail Food Price Index. Final indexes :
: for October 15, 1948 for individual cities and large cities :
: combined are given herein. :

Retail prices of goods and services bought by moderate-income families in large cities in October dropped 0.5 percent below the all-time high reached in August and September. This was the first decline since March of this year. The consumers' price index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, for October 15 was 173.6 percent of the 1935-39 average, 6.0 percent higher than October 1947; 30.2 percent higher than June 1946; and 76.1 percent higher than August 1939. A substantial drop of 1.7 percent in retail food prices more than offset increases in all other major groups.

The drop in food prices from mid-September to mid-October, which was general, was much greater than the usual seasonal decline and marked the third consecutive month of the falling prices for foods. The food price index on October 15 was 211.5 percent of the 1935-39 average, 2.4 percent below the peak reached in July 1948, 4.9 percent higher than a year ago, and 45.3 percent above the June 1946 level. Lower meat prices were chiefly responsible for the decrease, although all classes of food except fish, eggs, and beverages declined. Prices of foods averaged lower in October than in September in 53 of the 56 cities surveyed.

Retail prices of meat dropped 4.4 percent from September to October, reflecting seasonally lower prices in wholesale markets. The decreases ranged from 2.6 percent for chickens to 5.6 percent for pork. A further drop of more than 8 percent for butter to a national average price of 77 cents a pound was principally responsible for a contra-seasonal decline in dairy products prices. Fruits and vegetables were lower on the average for the fifth consecutive month; fresh fruit and vegetable prices were approximately the same as in June 1946. Smaller decreases were reported for fats and oils (notably margarine), and for cereals (notably rice). Eggs were seasonally higher.

The apparel price index continued to advance (0.3 percent) between September 15 and October 15, despite reports of general weakness in wholesale textile markets, as higher prices were reported for women's shoes and coats and men's overcoats and topcoats. Prices for men's business shirts were generally lower than a month ago and there were scattered reports of decreases for other items. Apparel prices increased on the average in 8 of the 10 cities surveyed in both September and October.

The index of prices of fuel, electricity, and refrigeration rose 0.4 percent during the month, primarily because of higher rates for gas in Boston and electricity in Cincinnati. Prices of other fuels and of ice advanced fractionally.

Housefurnishings prices averaged 0.4 percent higher than a month ago, reflecting continued increases for electric refrigerators. Declines were reported for some textile housefurnishings.

Higher prices for men's hair cuts, motion picture admissions, and cigars were chiefly responsible for a rise of 0.7 percent in the index of miscellaneous goods and services from mid-September to mid-October. Prices of household paper goods continued to decline.

Residential rents advanced 0.2 percent between September 15 and October 15. In the 11 cities surveyed in October the largest increases were reported in Detroit, Kansas City, and Portland, Oregon. Rent has increased 3.3 percent over the past year, but less than 14 percent since August 1939.

On November 24, immediately upon completion of the calculations, the Bureau released the October 1948 Consumers' Price Index for large cities combined and for each of the 18 cities through the public press. Because of the very large number of people on the Bureau's mailing list, about a week is required to reproduce and distribute this detailed report.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

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On November 24, immediately upon completion of the calculations, the Bureau released the October 1948 Consumers' Price Index for large cities combined and for each of the 18 cities through the public press. Because of the very large number of people on the Bureau's mailing list, about a week is required to reproduce and distribute this detailed report.

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities. Time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services are weighted by 1934-36 average expenditures of families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36. City data are combined for the United States with the use of population weights.

The indexes do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first 3 days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month.

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. (Effective with the September release the group index formerly titled "Fuel, Electricity, and Ice" was designated "Fuel, Electricity, and Refrigeration." No change has been made in the items included in the group. Indexes are comparable with those previously published for "Fuel, Electricity, and Ice." The subgroup "Other Fuels and Ice" has been discontinued, and separate indexes will be presented for "Other Fuels" and "Ice.")

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedules for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Oreg.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Rental information is obtained quarterly in each city. The Bureau of Labor Statistics obtains its figures on rents by asking tenants in a representative sample of dwellings what rent they pay and what facilities and services are included in the rent. The samples are chosen to represent all tenant dwellings, new and old, small and large, single homes and apartments. The rents, so reported, are then compared with those reported by the tenants for the same dwellings at the time of the last rent survey, after adjustments are made for any changes in the facilities (e.g., heat) and services (e.g., janitor service) included in the rent. Removal of facilities and services without compensating reductions in rent are treated as rent increases. When facilities or services not previously included in the contract rent are added, if the rent is increased in excess of the value of the additional items, the excess charge is reflected as a rent increase. Just as in the case of the other groups (food, apparel, etc.) of the consumers' price index, the rent index measures changes

in the rent paid for the same dwellings from one time to another, not the amount of money which families spend for housing. For example, it does not reflect the costs of repairs made by tenants, the change in housing costs of workers who have migrated or moved to better or poorer quarters, nor does it take into account deterioration in upkeep or service, or the additional costs of "extras" or premiums charged by some landlords when they rent to new tenants. A representation of new and converted units is added to the rent samples periodically and thereafter rent changes for these units are reflected in the index as they occur. The index is not adjusted to reflect the differences between the rents at which newly constructed or converted dwellings enter the rental market and the rents for comparable existing housing. The rent index measures only changes in rents, and does not reflect the costs of shifting from renting to owning, or changes in the costs of buying or maintaining owner-occupied homes.

Tables in the release contain index numbers for the current and other specified periods and show percent changes to the current period from specified dates.

Table 1 shows indexes for all items combined, groups and subgroups for large cities combined, for the current period, a month ago, 3 months ago, a year ago, June 1946 and August 1939.

Table 2 shows percent changes to the current period for indexes given in Table 1.

Table 3 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the month and over the quarter for each of 10 cities surveyed monthly.

Table 4 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the quarter for each of 8 cities surveyed quarterly.

Table 5 shows indexes for all items combined for specified periods and percent changes to the current period from specified dates for 18 cities surveyed this month.

Table 6 shows current U.S. average prices for 50 food items.

Table 7 shows food price indexes for the current period, a month ago and 3 months ago, and corresponding percent changes for 38 cities for which only food price data are collected or for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

Table 8 shows fuel price indexes for the current period and percent changes to the current period from a month ago and 3 months ago for 18 cities for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
(1935-39 = 100.0)

Group	Oct. 15 1948	Sept. 15 1948	July 15 1948	Oct. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	173.6	174.5	173.7	163.8	133.3	98.6
ALL FOODS	211.5	215.2	216.8	201.6	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	170.0	170.7	171.0	160.3	122.1	93.4
Meats, poultry & fish	256.1	265.3	261.8	235.5	134.0	95.7
Meats	254.3	265.9	263.0	234.9	120.4	95.4
Beef & veal	269.8	280.8	280.9	233.6	121.2	99.6
Pork	233.9	247.9	233.8	240.9	114.3	88.0
Lamb	249.4	256.6	275.0	226.2	139.0	98.8
Chickens	204.0	209.4	209.3	189.5	162.8	94.6
Fish	325.9	314.9	301.6	286.5	219.7	99.6
Dairy products	203.0	208.7	209.0	190.1	147.8	93.1
Eggs	239.0	226.6	204.3	232.7	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	193.5	195.8	213.4	196.6	183.5	92.4
Fresh	197.3	199.6	223.2	201.1	196.7	92.8
Canned	158.9	159.0	157.7	155.2	127.5	91.6
Dried	238.1	249.1	248.0	255.6	172.5	90.3
Beverages	205.9	205.6	205.2	190.8	125.4	94.9
Fats & Oils	193.0	196.8	200.8	190.0	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	173.1	173.2	170.9	181.8	136.2	95.6
APPAREL	201.6	201.0	197.1	189.0	157.2	100.3
RENT	118.7	118.5	117.3	114.9	108.5	104.3
FUEL; ELEC. & REFRIGERATION*	137.8	137.3	134.8	125.2	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	95.4	94.6	94.4	92.2	92.1	99.0
Other fuels	191.4	191.0	185.0	165.2	133.0	95.2
Ice	137.9	137.6	136.5	129.6	115.1	100.0
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	198.8	198.1	195.9	187.8	156.1	100.6
MISCELLANEOUS	153.7	152.7	150.8	141.8	127.9	100.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*, AND PERCENT
CHANGES TO OCTOBER 15, 1948 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS

Group	Sept. 15 1948	July 15 1948	Oct. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	-0.5	-0.1	6.0	30.2	76.1
ALL FOODS	-1.7	-2.4	4.9	45.3	126.2
Cereals & bakery products	-0.4	-0.6	6.1	39.2	82.0
Meats, poultry & fish	-3.5	-2.2	8.7	91.1	167.6
Meats	-4.4	-3.3	8.3	111.2	166.6
Beef & veal	-3.9	-4.0	15.5	122.6	170.9
Pork	-5.6	0	-2.9	104.6	165.8
Lamb	-2.8	-9.3	10.3	79.4	152.4
Chickens	-2.6	-2.5	7.7	25.3	115.6
Fish	3.5	8.1	13.8	48.3	227.2
Dairy products	-2.7	-2.9	6.8	37.3	118.0
Eggs	5.5	17.0	2.7	62.5	163.5
Fruits & vegetables	-1.2	-9.3	-1.6	5.4	109.4
Fresh	-1.2	-11.6	-1.9	0.3	112.6
Canned	-0.1	0.8	2.4	24.6	73.5
Dried	-4.4	-4.0	-6.8	38.0	163.7
Beverages	0.1	0.3	7.9	64.2	117.0
Fats & oils	-1.9	-3.9	1.6	52.7	128.4
Sugar & sweets	-0.1	1.3	-4.8	27.1	81.1
APPAREL	0.3	2.3	6.7	28.2	101.0
RENT	0.2	1.2	3.3	9.4	13.8
FUEL, ELEC. & REFRIGERATION*	0.4	2.2	10.1	24.7	41.3
Gas & electricity	0.8	1.1	3.5	3.6	-3.6
Other fuels	0.2	3.5	15.9	43.9	101.1
Ice	0.2	1.0	6.4	19.8	37.9
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	0.4	1.5	5.9	27.4	97.6
MISCELLANEOUS	0.7	1.9	8.4	20.2	53.1

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 10 CITIES*
SURVEYED MONTHLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM SEPTEMBER 15, 1948
JULY 15, 1948 TO OCTOBER 15, 1948 BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Refrigeration*		House- furnish- ings	Miscel- lanecus
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity		
October 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)								
Birmingham, Ala.	176.9	210.8	209.3	-	135.6	79.6	193.7	149.3
Boston, Mass.	167.8	202.6	193.1	-	156.0	119.2	192.2	145.5
Chicago, Ill.	178.1	218.0	204.0	-	131.5	83.5	184.4	154.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	175.5	214.4	198.4	-	145.1	101.9	192.2	154.3
Detroit, Mich.	174.6	204.4	199.0	126.5	150.6	87.1	206.0	166.5
Houston, Texas	174.7	220.8	213.1	-	99.6	81.8	198.8	152.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	171.8	213.1	195.3	-	94.0	89.3	189.0	153.6
New York, N. Y.	171.7	211.5	202.1	107.5	133.2	100.5	188.2	157.8
Philadelphia, Pa.	174.1	208.4	195.8	-	142.6	103.0	204.9	152.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	177.1	215.1	233.2	119.0	138.8	103.3	205.3	147.7
Percent Change from September 15, 1948								
Birmingham, Ala.	-1.0	-2.5	0.1	-	0	0	0.8	0
Boston, Mass.	-0.7	-2.2	0.4	-	2.0	6.0	1.5	0.6
Chicago, Ill.	-0.7	-1.5	0.2	-	0	0	0.5	-0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.5	-1.7	0.2	-	2.3	7.2	1.0	0.3
Detroit, Mich.	-0.5	-1.5	0.3	-	0	-0.2	-0.2	0
Houston, Texas	-0.4	-1.3	0	-	0	0	0.2	0.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.5	0.5	0.4	-	0	0	0	1.0
New York, N. Y.	-0.9	-2.2	-0.4	-	-0.1	-0.1	0.4	0.5
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.4	-1.7	0.4	-	0	0	0.1	1.4
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.7	-2.0	0.2	-	0	-0.1	0.1	0.8
Percent Change from July 15, 1948								
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.1	-3.3	1.9	-	0	0	1.0	3.8
Boston, Mass.	-0.5	-3.6	2.4	-	4.4	6.3	3.1	1.8
Chicago, Ill.	-0.3	-3.0	3.1	-	1.1	0	1.6	2.5
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.2	-2.7	2.7	-	2.8	7.2	0.4	1.4
Detroit, Mich.	-0.7	-4.1	2.4	1.0	2.2	0.5	0.2	1.6
Houston, Texas	0.6	-0.6	2.4	-	1.2	0	-0.2	1.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.9	0	-0.2	-	-0.3	0	1.7	2.3
New York, N. Y.	-0.5	-2.9	2.7	0.4	1.7	0	2.2	1.6
Philadelphia, Pa.	0.7	-1.2	1.3	-	4.8	0	3.0	2.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.4	-3.2	4.0	0.4	1.2	-0.1	1.1	1.9

* See General Explanation on page 3.

October 1948

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 8 CITIES*
 SURVEYED QUARTERLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM JULY 15, 1948
 TO OCTOBER 15, 1948, BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Refrigeration*		House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity		
October 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)								
Buffalo, N. Y.	172.7	206.4	200.9	122.1	140.2	96.0	204.9	157.3
Denver, Colo.	171.0	208.3	200.6	123.4	112.1	69.2	218.3	151.3
Indianapolis, Ind.	178.0	211.8	193.7	129.1	153.2	86.6	191.6	160.5
Kansas City, Mo.	167.5	201.1	192.0	123.7	129.1	66.6	185.0	154.3
Manchester, N. H.	176.5	210.4	192.6	111.7	157.2	98.7	204.9	147.6
Portland, Oreg.	180.1	227.7	200.9	124.5	129.2	95.0	190.5	155.8
Richmond, Va.	170.0	209.7	203.4	113.5	142.4	95.6	207.1	143.2
Savannah, Ga.	178.4	219.2	197.0	117.9	155.8	101.5	205.6	155.4
Percent Changes from July 15, 1948								
Buffalo, N. Y.	-0.2	-3.1	1.9	0.7	0.8	0	1.3	2.9
Denver, Colo.	-0.9	-4.0	2.3	0.7	2.6	0	0.5	1.5
Indianapolis, Ind.	0.8	-0.4	2.4	0.5	2.0	0	2.0	1.5
Kansas City, Mo.	0.7	-1.6	3.0	1.2	1.7	0.3	0.8	2.8
Manchester, N. H.	-0.9	-3.7	0.6	0.3	2.9	4.3	2.4	1.9
Portland, Oreg.	-0.1	-2.6	3.1	1.1	1.6	-0.7	2.2	1.2
Richmond, Va.	0.7	0.1	2.6	0.4	0.1	0	-0.6	1.1
Savannah, Ga.	-1.0	-4.0	1.5	0.8	2.9	11.3	1.6	1.3

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 18 CITIES*
 AND PERCENT CHANGES TO OCTOBER 15, 1948 FROM
 SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100				Percent Change to October 15, 1948 from		
	Oct. 15 1948	Oct. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939	Oct. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	173.6	163.8	133.3	98.6	6.0	30.2	76.1
Birmingham, Ala.	176.9	169.7	136.5	98.5	4.2	29.6	79.6
Boston, Mass.	167.8	157.5	127.9	97.1	6.5	31.2	72.8
Buffalo, N. Y.	172.7	162.6	132.6	98.5	6.2	30.2	75.3
Chicago, Ill.	178.1	167.3	130.9	98.7	6.5	36.1	80.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	175.5	167.1	132.2	97.3	5.0	32.8	80.4
Denver, Colo.	171.0	160.4	131.7	98.6	6.6	29.8	73.4
Detroit, Mich.	174.6	166.7	136.4	98.5	4.7	28.0	77.3
Houston, Texas	174.7	163.4	130.5	100.7	6.9	33.9	73.5
Indianapolis, Ind.	178.0	167.8	131.9	98.0	6.1	35.0	81.6
Kansas City, Mo.	167.5	157.9	129.4	98.6	6.1	29.4	69.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	171.8	161.3	136.1	100.5	6.5	26.2	70.9
Manchester, N. H.	176.5	166.1	134.7	97.8	6.3	31.0	80.5
New York, N. Y.	171.7	161.7	135.8	99.0	6.2	26.4	73.4
Philadelphia, Pa.	174.1	162.2	132.5	97.8	7.3	31.4	78.0
Pittsburgh, Pa.	177.1	167.8	134.7	98.4	5.5	31.5	80.0
Portland, Oreg.	180.1	166.5	140.3	100.1	8.2	28.4	79.9
Richmond, Va.	170.0	161.7	128.2	98.0	5.1	32.6	73.5
Savannah, Ga.	178.4	171.5	140.6	99.3	4.0	26.9	79.9

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 6 - AVERAGE PRICES OF FOOD IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
OCTOBER 15, 1948

Food and Unit	Oct. 15 Average Cents	Food and Unit	Oct. 15 Average Cents
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS		EGGS, fresh, doz.	
Cereals:		82.7	
Flour, wheat, 5 lb.	47.6	FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:	
Corn flakes, 11 oz.	16.7	Fresh:	
Corn meal, lb.	10.8	Apples, lb.	11.5
Rice, lb.	20.0	Bananas, lb.	16.3
Rolled oats, 20 oz.	17.1	Oranges, size 200 doz.	54.3
Bakery products:		Beans, green, lb.	16.9
Bread, white, lb.	13.9	Cabbage, lb.	5.3
Vanilla cookies, lb.	44.5	Carrots, bunch	10.3
MEATS:		Lettuce, head	13.4
Beef:		Onions, lb.	6.1
Round steak, lb.	93.7	Potatoes, 15 lb.	72.7
Rib roast, lb.	76.9	Spinach, lb.	11.6
Chuck roast, lb.	67.6	Sweetpotatoes, lb.	9.4
Hamburger, lb.	59.9	Canned:	
Veal:		Peaches, #2-1/2 can	32.1
Cutlets, lb.	101.1	Pineapple, #2-1/2 can	38.4
Pork:		Corn, #2 can	19.9
Chops, lb.	83.7	Peas, #2 can	15.3
Bacon, sliced, lb.	78.9	Tomatoes, #2 can	16.3
Ham, whole, lb.	70.4	Dried:	
Salt pork, lb.	41.8	Prunes, lb.	21.3
Lamb:		Navy beans, lb.	20.4
Leg, lb.	71.9	BEVERAGES:	
Poultry:		Coffee, lb.	51.6
Roasting chickens, lb.	61.6	FATS AND OILS:	
Fish:		Lard, lb.	29.2
Salmon, pink, 16 oz. can	59.4	Shortening, hydrogenated, lb.	42.6
DAIRY PRODUCTS:		Salad, dressing, pt.	40.1
Butter, lb.	77.4	Oleomargarine, lb.	40.2
Cheese, lb.	67.4	SUGAR AND SWEETS:	
Milk, fresh (delivered), qt.	22.8	Sugar, lb.	9.3
Milk, fresh (grocery), qt.	21.6		
Milk, evaporated, 14-1/2 oz. can	15.5		

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDEXES FOR 38 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM SEPTEMBER 15 AND JULY 15, 1948
TO OCTOBER 15, 1948, BY CITIES

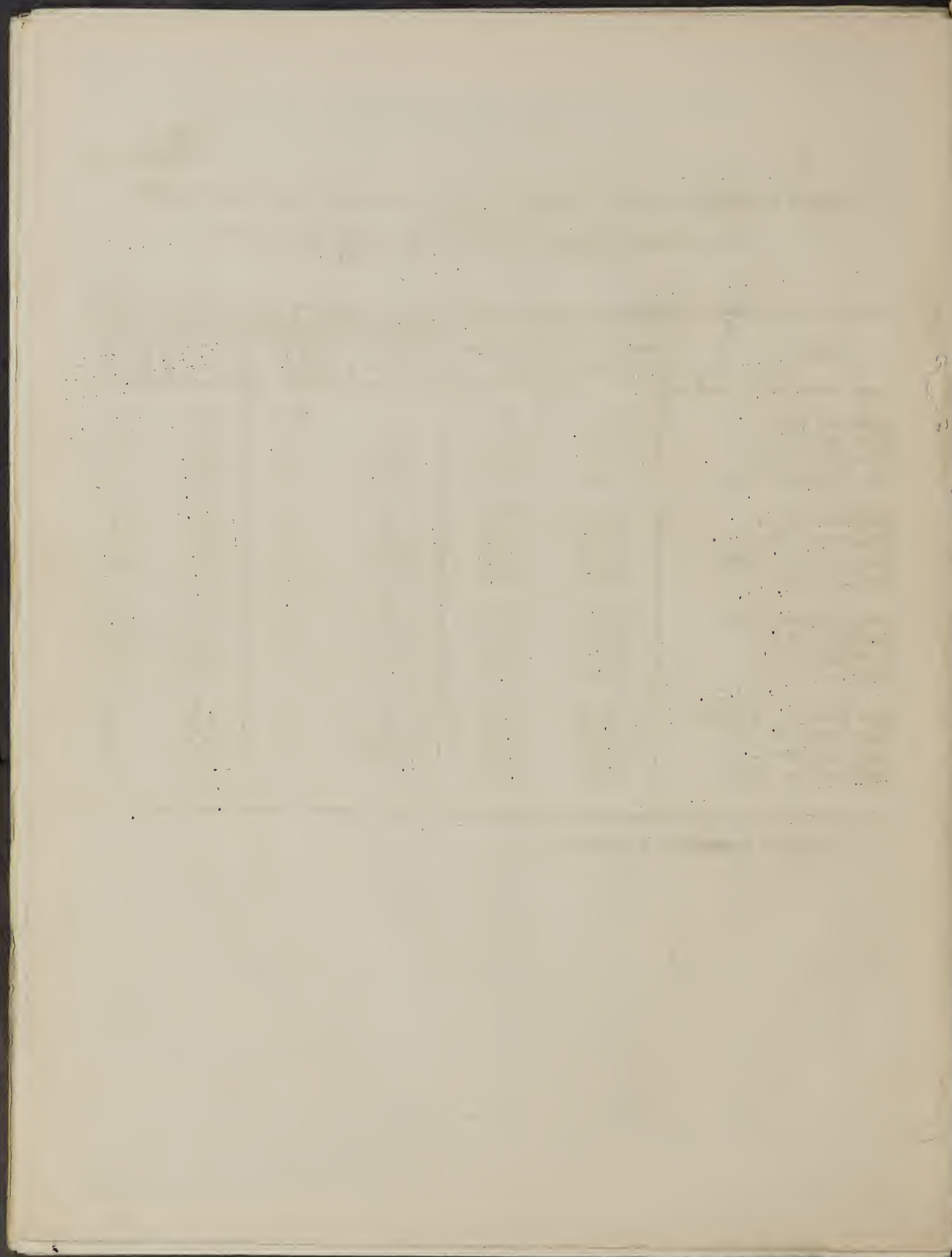
City	Indexes (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to Oct. 15, 1948 from	
	Oct. 15 1948	Sept. 15 1948	July 15 1948	Sept. 15 1948	July 15 1948
Atlanta, Ga.	208.3	214.2	212.4	-2.8	-1.9
Baltimore, Md.	224.5	228.7	227.7	-1.8	-1.4
Bridgeport, Conn.	209.3	212.7	214.4	-1.6	-2.4
Butte, Mont.	214.9	214.5	216.6	0.2	0.8
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 1/	218.0	220.2	224.4	-1.0	-2.9
Charleston, S. C.	204.9	207.7	211.4	-1.3	-3.1
Cleveland, Ohio	220.9	225.6	226.2	-2.1	-2.3
Columbus, Ohio	197.2	200.8	201.9	-1.8	-2.3
Dallas, Texas	214.7	217.3	213.3	-1.2	0.7
Fall River, Mass.	209.1	211.6	214.1	-1.2	-2.3
Jackson, Miss. 1/	218.6	220.7	220.8	-1.0	-1.0
Jacksonville, Fla.	217.5	219.3	222.8	-0.8	-2.4
Knoxville, Tenn. 1/	236.7	241.6	241.7	-2.0	-2.1
Little Rock, Ark.	206.5	212.0	213.4	-2.6	-3.2
Louisville, Ky.	201.7	207.2	206.8	-2.7	-2.5
Memphis, Tenn.	223.7	227.8	229.8	-1.8	-2.7
Milwaukee, Wis.	211.2	216.3	218.3	-2.4	-3.3
Minneapolis, Minn.	202.2	206.0	208.2	-1.8	-2.9
Mobile, Ala.	213.8	222.1	222.5	-3.7	-3.9
Newark, N. J.	205.8	211.1	212.8	-2.5	-3.3
New Haven, Conn.	203.5	205.3	208.3	-0.9	-2.3
New Orleans, La.	220.5	227.7	233.2	-3.2	-5.4
Norfolk, Va.	217.1	220.2	216.9	-1.4	0.1
Omaha, Nebr.	210.2	210.3	208.6	0	0.8
Peoria, Ill.	222.1	230.3	224.9	-3.6	-1.2
Portland, Me.	204.1	207.0	209.7	-1.4	-2.7
Providence, R. I.	218.4	223.8	224.9	-2.4	-2.9
Rochester, N. Y.	200.7	207.3	211.2	-3.2	-5.0
St. Louis, Mo.	217.4	223.0	224.2	-2.5	-3.0
St. Paul, Minn.	199.7	203.1	204.7	-1.7	-2.4
Salt Lake City, Utah	211.2	214.7	217.1	-1.6	-2.7
San Francisco, Calif.	223.0	224.2	223.2	-0.5	-0.1
Scranton, Pa.	209.2	213.2	218.2	-1.9	-4.1
Seattle, Wash.	217.5	221.0	223.4	-1.6	-2.6
Springfield, Ill.	219.5	226.4	224.9	-3.0	-2.4
Washington, D. C.	209.2	212.9	215.1	-1.7	-2.7
Wichita, Kans. 1/	220.0	223.0	226.7	-1.3	-3.0
Winston-Salem, N. C. 1/	212.7	215.6	212.9	-1.3	-0.1

* See General Explanation on page 3.
1/ June 1940 = 100.

TABLE 8 - INDEXES OF RETAIL PRICES OF FUELS, ELECTRICITY AND REFRIGERATION
FOR 16 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM SEPTEMBER 15 AND JULY 15, 1948
TO OCTOBER 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Index Oct. 15, 1948 (1935-39 = 100)		Percent Change to Oct. 15, 1948 from			
	Total	Gas & Elec.	September 15, 1948		July 15, 1948	
			Total	Gas & Elec.	Total	Gas & Elec.
Atlanta, Ga.	148.2	77.0	0	0.1	0.7	0
Baltimore, Md.	148.0	121.3	0	0	2.6	0.1
Cleveland, Ohio	145.1	105.6	0.3	0	1.8	0
Jacksonville, Fla.	146.9	100.2	0	0	-0.3	0
Memphis, Tenn.	135.0	77.0	0	0	5.4	0
Milwaukee, Wisc.	145.5	104.5	0	0	2.5	0
Minneapolis, Minn.	140.4	75.8	0.6	0	1.7	0
Mobile, Ala.	129.8	83.9	0	-0.1	1.6	-0.1
New Orleans, La.	113.0	75.1	0	0	0	0
Norfolk, Va.	147.8	97.8	0	0	0	0
Portland, Me.	154.5	108.5	0.1	0	6.6	8.1
St. Louis, Mo.	138.3	94.1	0	0	0.9	0
San Francisco, Calif.	83.1	72.7	0	0	0	0
Scranton, Pa.	144.7	91.8	0	0	4.6	0
Seattle, Wash.	125.9	91.5	1.4	0	2.3	0
Washington, D. C.	137.3	98.6	0	0	4.0	4.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.



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CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL FOOD PRICES
November 15, 1948

Consumers' Price Index Declines 0.8 Percent Between October 15 and November 15
as Retail Food Prices Continue to Drop in Most Cities

: This report combines information on the Consumers'
: Price Index and the Retail Food Price Index. Final indexes :
: for November 15, 1948 for individual cities and large cities:
: combined are given herein. :

Retail prices of goods and services purchased by moderate-income families in large cities decreased 0.8 percent from October 15 to November 15, the second consecutive decline. The consumers' price index, as calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor, on November 15 was 172.2 percent of the 1935-39 average, 4.4 percent higher than a year ago, 29.2 percent above June 1946, and 74.6 percent over the August 1939 level. Primarily responsible for the decline was a drop of 1.9 percent in food prices; prices of apparel and house-furnishings declined fractionally.

The substantial drop in food prices marked the fourth consecutive month in which the food index has declined. From the record high reached in July, food prices have dropped more than 4 percent to a level of 2.4 percent above a year ago. With decreases in 54 out of 56 cities, the food index on November 15 was 207.5 percent of the 1935-39 average, still 42.5 percent higher than in June 1946. Most classes of food contributed to the decrease in November, led by a 4.4 percent drop in meat prices. Prices of dairy products, fruits and vegetables, and fats and oils declined about 2 percent during the month. Egg prices rose 2 percent and prices of sugar and sweets and beverages advanced fractionally.

By mid-November meat prices averaged nearly 10 percent lower than in August. All meats (except salt pork which was unchanged over the month) contributed to the drop in November, pork chops, down 13.5 percent to an average of 72 cents per pound, were 20 cents less than the all-time high of 92 cents in mid-September. Whole ham and hamburger dropped about 5 percent and chuck roast and bacon 3 percent.

Prices of fruits and vegetables declined for the sixth month. Fresh and dried fruits and vegetables were considerably lower in price than a year ago. Among fresh fruits and vegetables, orange prices dropped over 20 percent and cabbage, carrots, spinach, lettuce, and potatoes were also lower. Green beans, which were scarce, increased sharply in price. Prices of all fats and oils declined. Dairy products prices continued downward contra-seasonally, as prices of cheese, butter, and evaporated milk declined 3 to 5 percent. At 75 cents a pound, butter prices averaged lower than in any month since June 1947.

Apparel prices declined fractionally on the average (0.1 percent) from October to November. Retail sales of apparel continued below retailers' expectations and manufacturers lowered prices on many cotton goods as a result of the year-long decline in cotton fabric prices. Lower prices for men's suits, men's cotton furnishings and cotton yard goods more than offset higher prices for women's rayon dresses. Apparel prices averaged slightly lower in 6 of the 10 cities surveyed in both October and November.

Housefurnishings prices also declined slightly (0.1 percent) from mid-October to mid-November, with lower prices for bedroom suites and curtains more than offsetting higher prices for electric refrigerators, rugs, and living-room furniture. Since November 15, there have been some reductions in refrigerator prices.

The fuel, electricity, and refrigeration group index advanced fractionally (0.1 percent) during the month. Gas and electricity rates were unchanged on the average, but prices for other fuels and for ice were slightly higher.

Prices of miscellaneous goods and services rose fractionally (0.1 percent) from October 15 to November 15, as higher prices were reported for laundry services. Prices of household paper continued to decline.

Residential rents also advanced slightly during the month, reflecting continued adjustments under the Housing and Rent Act. In the 3-months period ending November 15, rents advanced in all 12 of the cities surveyed, with increases of 1 percent or more reported in New Orleans, Cleveland, and Atlanta.

: On December 23, immediately upon completion of the calculations, :
: the Bureau released the November 1948 Consumers' Price Index for large :
: cities combined and for each of the 18 cities through the public press. :
: Because of the very large number of people on the Bureau's mailing list, :
: about a week is required to reproduce and distribute this detailed report. :

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities. Time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services are weighted by 1934-36 average expenditures of families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36. City data are combined for the United States with the use of population weights.

The indexes do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first 3 days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month.

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. (Effective with the September release the group index formerly titled "Fuel, Electricity, and Ice" was designated "Fuel, Electricity, and Refrigeration." No change has been made in the items included in the group. Indexes are comparable with those previously published for "Fuel, Electricity, and Ice." The subgroup "Other Fuels and Ice" has been discontinued, and separate indexes will be presented for "Other Fuels" and "Ice.")

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedules for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Oreg.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Rental information is obtained quarterly in each city. The Bureau of Labor Statistics obtains its figures on rents by asking tenants in a representative sample of dwellings what rent they pay and what facilities and services are included in the rent. The samples are chosen to represent all tenant dwellings, new and old, small and large, single homes and apartments. The rents, so reported, are then compared with those reported by the tenants for the same dwellings at the time of the last rent survey, after adjustments are made for any changes in the facilities (e.g., heat) and services (e.g., janitor service) included in the rent. Removal of facilities and services without compensating reductions in rent are treated as rent increases. When facilities or services not previously included in the contract rent are added, if the rent is increased in excess of the value of the additional items, the excess charge is reflected as a rent increase. Just as in the case of the other groups (food, apparel, etc.) of the consumers' price index, the rent index measures changes

in the rent paid for the same dwellings from one time to another, not the amount of money which families spend for housing. For example, it does not reflect the costs of repairs made by tenants, the change in housing costs of workers who have migrated or moved to better or poorer quarters, nor does it take into account deterioration in upkeep or service, or the additional costs of "extras" or premiums charged by some landlords when they rent to new tenants. A representation of new and converted units is added to the rent samples periodically and thereafter rent changes for these units are reflected in the index as they occur. The index is not adjusted to reflect the differences between the rents at which newly constructed or converted dwellings enter the rental market and the rents for comparable existing housing. The rent index measures only changes in rents, and does not reflect the costs of shifting from renting to owning, or changes in the costs of buying or maintaining owner-occupied homes.

Tables in the release contain index numbers for the current and other specified periods and show percent changes to the current period from specified dates.

Table 1 shows indexes for all items combined, groups and subgroups for large cities combined, for the current period, a month ago, 3 months ago, a year ago, June 1946 and August 1939.

Table 2 shows percent changes to the current period for indexes given in Table 1.

Table 3 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the month and over the quarter for each of 10 cities surveyed monthly.

Table 4 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the quarter for each of 8 cities surveyed quarterly.

Table 5 shows indexes for all items combined for specified periods and percent changes to the current period from specified dates for 18 cities surveyed this month.

Table 6 shows current U.S. average prices for 50 food items.

Table 7 shows food price indexes for the current period, a month ago and 3 months ago, and corresponding percent changes for 38 cities for which only food price data are collected or for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

Table 8 shows fuel price indexes for the current period and percent changes to the current period from a month ago and 3 months ago for 18 cities for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
(1935-39 = 100.0)

Group	Nov. 15 1948	Oct. 15 1948	Aug. 15 1948	Nov. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	172.2	173.6	174.5	164.9	133.3	98.6
ALL FOODS	207.5	211.5	216.6	202.7	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	169.9	170.0	170.8	167.9	122.1	93.4
Meats, poultry & fish	246.7	256.1	267.0	227.0	134.0	95.7
Meats	243.1	254.3	269.3	223.6	120.4	95.4
Beef & veal	262.4	269.8	286.2	226.3	121.2	99.6
Pork	214.4	233.9	246.1	219.7	114.3	88.0
Lamb	246.5	249.4	266.6	227.1	139.0	98.8
Chickens	200.5	204.0	207.8	184.6	162.8	94.6
Fish	328.1	325.9	304.4	302.4	219.7	99.6
Dairy products	199.5	203.0	211.0	198.4	147.8	93.1
Eggs	244.3	239.0	220.2	224.7	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	189.4	193.5	199.6	199.6	183.5	92.4
Fresh	192.4	197.3	204.8	205.0	196.7	92.8
Canned	159.4	158.9	157.8	156.5	127.5	91.6
Dried	230.6	238.1	249.2	251.7	172.5	90.3
Beverages	206.4	205.9	205.3	194.7	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	189.4	193.0	197.8	196.4	126.4	84.5
Sugar & sweets	173.3	173.1	172.3	183.2	136.2	95.6
APPAREL	201.4	201.6	199.7	190.2	157.2	100.3
RENT	118.8	118.7	117.7	115.2	108.5	104.3
FUEL, ELEC. & REFRIGERATION*	137.9	137.8	136.8	126.9	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	95.4	95.4	94.5	92.5	92.1	99.0
Other fuels	191.6	191.4	190.1	169.1	133.0	95.2
Ice	138.0	137.9	137.3	129.9	115.1	100.0
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	198.7	198.8	196.3	188.9	156.1	100.6
MISCELLANEOUS	153.9	153.7	152.4	143.0	127.9	100.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*, AND PERCENT
CHANGES TO NOVEMBER 15, 1948 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS

Group	Oct. 15 1948	Aug. 15 1948	Nov. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	-0.8	-1.3	4.4	29.2	74.6
ALL FOODS	-1.9	-4.2	2.4	42.5	121.9
Cereals & bakery products	-0.1	-0.5	1.2	39.1	81.9
Meats, poultry & fish	-3.7	-7.6	8.7	84.1	157.8
Meats	-4.4	-9.7	8.7	101.9	154.8
Beef & veal	-2.7	-8.3	16.0	116.5	163.5
Pork	-8.3	-12.9	-2.4	87.6	143.6
Lamb	-1.2	-7.5	8.5	77.3	149.5
Chickens	-1.7	-3.5	8.6	23.2	111.9
Fish	0.7	7.8	8.5	49.3	229.4
Dairy products	-1.7	-5.5	0.6	35.0	114.3
Eggs	2.2	10.9	8.7	66.1	169.3
Fruits & vegetables	-2.1	-5.1	-5.1	3.2	105.0
Fresh	-2.5	-6.1	-6.1	-2.2	107.3
Canned	0.3	1.0	1.9	25.0	74.0
Dried	-3.1	-7.5	-8.4	33.7	155.4
Beverages	0.2	0.5	6.0	64.6	117.5
Fats & oils	-1.9	-4.2	-3.6	49.8	124.1
Sugar & sweets	0.1	0.6	-5.4	27.2	81.3
APPAREL	-0.1	0.9	5.9	28.1	100.8
RENT	0.1	0.9	3.1	9.5	13.9
FUEL, ELEC. & REFRIGERATION*	0.1	0.8	8.7	24.8	41.4
Gas & electricity	0	1.0	3.1	3.6	-3.6
Other fuels	0.1	0.8	13.3	44.1	101.3
Ice	0.1	0.5	6.2	19.9	38.0
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	-0.1	1.2	5.2	27.3	97.5
MISCELLANEOUS	0.1	1.0	7.6	20.3	53.3

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 10 CITIES*
 SURVEYED MONTHLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM OCTOBER 15 AND
 AUGUST 15, 1948 TO NOVEMBER 15, 1948 BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Refrigeration*		House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity		
November 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)								
Birmingham, Ala.	175.0	205.4	208.8	139.4	135.6	79.6	192.6	149.2
Boston, Mass.	166.7	199.2	192.8	-	156.1	119.2	193.1	146.3
Chicago, Ill.	175.9	211.9	203.2	-	131.5	83.5	185.5	155.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	173.8	209.4	197.9	-	145.1	101.9	193.2	154.5
Detroit, Mich.	173.1	199.9	198.5	-	150.5	87.3	207.1	166.4
Houston, Texas	173.9	217.6	212.3	121.5	99.7	81.9	198.8	153.5
Los Angeles, Calif.	172.2	213.7	195.5	124.8	94.0	89.3	189.2	153.4
New York, N. Y.	171.0	208.7	202.2	-	133.4	100.8	188.2	159.4
Philadelphia, Pa.	171.7	202.0	196.0	119.8	142.6	103.0	202.5	152.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.	175.9	211.0	234.6	-	138.8	103.3	205.7	148.1
Percent Changes from October 15, 1948								
Birmingham, Ala.	-1.1	-2.6	-0.2	-	0	0	-0.6	-0.1
Boston, Mass.	-0.7	-1.7	-0.2	-	0.1	0	0.5	0.5
Chicago, Ill.	-1.2	-2.8	-0.4	-	0	0	0.6	0.3
Cincinnati, Ohio	-1.0	-2.3	-0.3	-	0	0	0.5	0.1
Detroit, Mich.	-0.9	-2.2	-0.3	-	-0.1	0.2	0.5	-0.1
Houston, Texas	-0.5	-1.4	-0.4	-	0.1	0.1	0	0.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.2	0.3	0.1	-	0	0	0.1	-0.1
New York, N. Y.	-0.4	-1.3	0	-	0.2	0.3	0	1.0
Philadelphia, Pa.	-1.4	-3.1	0.1	-	0	0	-1.2	0.1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.7	-1.9	0.6	-	0	0	0.2	0.3
Percent Changes from August 15, 1948								
Birmingham, Ala.	-2.4	-6.3	0.9	0.5	0	0	0.2	-0.1
Boston, Mass.	-1.2	-4.6	1.1	-	2.5	6.1	3.3	1.7
Chicago, Ill.	-1.6	-5.2	1.3	-	0.4	0	2.8	1.6
Cincinnati, Ohio	-1.1	-4.0	0.2	-	2.8	7.2	1.9	1.0
Detroit, Mich.	-1.7	-4.9	0.4	-	0.5	0.7	-0.2	0.2
Houston, Texas	-0.7	-2.8	0.7	0.3	1.3	0.1	-0.3	0.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.7	0	0	1.2	1.1
New York, N. Y.	-1.3	-3.8	0.9	-	0.4	0.3	0.8	1.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	-1.8	-4.9	0.9	0.5	0	0	-0.1	1.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-1.3	-4.5	2.4	-	0	-0.1	1.0	1.1

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 8 CITIES*
SURVEYED QUARTERLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM AUGUST 15, 1948
TO NOVEMBER 15, 1948, BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Refrigeration*		House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity		
November 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)								
Atlanta, Ga.	173.7	205.9	206.9	121.4	148.2	77.0	201.8	156.7
Cleveland, Ohio	176.2	217.0	198.8	125.6	145.1	105.6	185.0	153.3
Milwaukee, Wisc.	171.2	207.5	201.4	117.3	145.8	104.5	195.3	150.0
New Orleans, La.	176.6	218.0	209.2	113.2	113.4	75.1	197.4	147.2
Norfolk, Va.	174.0	211.8	197.0	115.5	149.9	102.6	196.2	152.0
Scranton, Pa.	169.4	202.8	206.9	109.0	144.7	91.8	182.2	141.8
Seattle, Wash.	174.3	213.4	197.2	123.2	126.5	91.5	197.9	156.9
Washington, D. C.	167.1	203.5	221.5	104.1	137.7	98.6	204.8	155.4
Percent Changes from August 15, 1948								
Atlanta, Ga.	-1.4	-4.5	0.1	1.2	0	0.1	0.6	1.0
Cleveland, Ohio	-1.7	-5.2	1.3	1.0	1.0	0	0.5	0.7
Milwaukee, Wisc.	-1.9	-5.2	0.3	0.5	0.4	0	-0.6	0.9
New Orleans, La.	-1.8	-4.6	0	1.0	0.4	0	2.4	1.7
Norfolk, Va.	-1.2	-3.9	0.4	0.3	1.4	4.9	0.5	1.2
Scranton, Pa.	-3.0	-6.7	0.8	0.8	0.1	0	-1.2	0.5
Seattle, Wash.	-1.1	-3.8	0.9	0.8	1.9	0	0.4	1.4
Washington, D. C.	-1.2	-5.3	0.8	0.6	0.6	0	1.8	2.2

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 18 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES TO NOVEMBER 15, 1948 FROM
SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100				Percent Change to November 15, 1948 from		
	Nov. 15 1948	Nov. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939	Nov. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	172.2	164.9	133.3	98.6	4.4	29.2	74.6
Atlanta, Ga.	173.7	167.5	133.8	98.0	3.7	29.8	77.2
Birmingham, Ala.	175.0	171.6	136.5	98.5	2.0	28.2	77.7
Boston, Mass.	166.7	158.3	127.9	97.1	5.3	30.3	71.7
Chicago, Ill.	175.9	168.3	130.9	98.7	4.5	34.4	78.2
Cincinnati, Ohio	173.8	167.1	132.2	97.3	4.0	31.5	78.6
Cleveland, Ohio	176.2	166.9	135.7	100.0	5.6	29.8	76.2
Detroit, Mich.	173.1	166.6	136.4	98.5	3.9	26.9	75.7
Houston, Texas	173.9	165.8	130.5	100.7	4.9	33.3	72.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	172.2	164.1	136.1	100.5	4.9	26.5	71.3
Milwaukee, Wisc.	171.2	164.0	131.2	97.0	4.4	30.5	76.5
New Orleans, La.	176.6	173.2	138.0	99.7	2.0	28.0	77.1
New York, N. Y.	171.0	163.3	135.8	99.0	4.7	25.9	72.7
Norfolk, Va.	174.0	168.2	135.2	97.8	3.4	28.7	77.9
Philadelphia, Pa.	171.7	164.2	132.5	97.8	4.6	29.6	75.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	175.9	168.1	134.7	98.4	4.6	30.6	78.8
Scranton, Pa.	169.4	165.2	132.2	96.0	2.5	28.1	76.5
Seattle, Wash.	174.3	166.2	137.0	100.3	4.9	27.2	73.8
Washington, D. C.	167.1	161.7	133.8	98.6	3.3	24.9	69.5

* See General Explanation on page 3.

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDEXES FOR 38 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM OCTOBER 15 AND AUGUST 15, 1948
TO NOVEMBER 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to Nov. 15, 1948 from	
	Nov. 15 1948	Oct. 15 1948	Aug. 15 1948	Oct. 15 1948	Aug. 15 1948
Baltimore, Md.	218.7	224.5	228.9	-2.6	-4.5
Bridgeport, Conn.	205.9	209.3	214.6	-1.6	-4.1
Buffalo, N. Y.	201.6	206.4	213.0	-2.3	-5.4
Butte, Mont.	209.3	214.9	215.1	-2.6	-2.7
Cedar Rapids, Iowa <u>1/</u>	214.4	218.0	222.2	-1.7	-3.5
Charleston, S. C.	198.9	204.9	208.0	-2.9	-4.4
Columbus, Ohio	193.1	197.2	202.2	-2.1	-4.5
Dallas, Texas	212.7	214.7	215.2	-0.9	-1.2
Denver, Colo.	207.7	208.3	213.1	-0.3	-2.5
Fall River, Mass.	202.5	209.1	213.5	-3.2	-5.2
Indianapolis, Ind.	206.8	211.8	217.1	-2.4	-4.7
Jackson, Miss. <u>1/</u>	212.7	218.6	220.6	-2.7	-3.6
Jacksonville, Fla.	212.6	217.5	220.7	-2.3	-3.7
Kansas City, Mo.	198.5	201.1	205.4	-1.3	-3.4
Knoxville, Tenn. <u>1/</u>	233.9	236.7	244.6	-1.2	-4.4
Little Rock, Ark.	202.4	206.5	212.4	-2.0	-4.7
Louisville, Ky.	198.9	201.7	207.4	-1.4	-4.1
Manchester, N. H.	204.8	210.4	217.8	-2.7	-6.0
Memphis, Tenn.	219.0	223.7	227.1	-2.1	-3.6
Minneapolis, Minn.	197.8	202.2	209.2	-2.2	-5.4
Mobile, Ala.	211.3	213.8	222.7	-1.2	-5.1
Newark, N. J.	203.9	205.8	212.6	-0.9	-4.1
New Haven, Conn.	199.6	203.5	205.6	-1.9	-2.9
Omaha, Nebr.	205.6	210.2	211.1	-2.2	-2.6
Peroria, Ill.	218.0	222.1	230.8	-1.8	-5.5
Portland, Me.	198.0	204.1	209.8	-3.0	-5.6
Portland, Oreg.	222.9	227.7	234.1	-2.1	-4.8
Providence, R. I.	211.7	218.4	227.2	-3.1	-6.8
Richmond, Va.	203.6	209.7	211.7	-2.9	-3.8
Rochester, N. Y.	196.7	200.7	209.7	-2.0	-6.2
St. Louis, Mo.	213.1	217.4	225.3	-2.0	-5.4
St. Paul, Minn.	194.8	199.7	204.5	-2.5	-4.7
Salt Lake City, Utah	208.8	211.2	216.0	-1.1	-3.3
San Francisco, Calif.	219.5	223.0	224.3	-1.6	-2.1
Savannah, Ga.	215.0	219.2	223.3	-1.9	-3.7
Springfield, Ill.	215.2	219.5	227.0	-2.0	-5.2
Wichita, Kans. <u>1/</u>	222.2	220.0	224.7	+1.0	-1.1
Winston-Salem, N. C. <u>1/</u>	206.1	212.7	215.8	-3.1	-4.5

* See General Explanation on page 3.

1/ June 1940 = 100.

TABLE 8 - INDEXES OF RETAIL PRICES OF FUELS, ELECTRICITY AND REFRIGERATION
FOR 16 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM OCTOBER 15 AND AUGUST 15, 1948
TO NOVEMBER 15, 1948. BY CITIES

City	Index Nov. 15, 1948 (1935-39 = 100)		Percent Change to Nov. 15, 1948 from			
	Total	Gas & Elec.	October 15, 1948		August 15, 1948	
			Total	Gas & Elec.	Total	Gas & Elec.
Baltimore, Md.	148.0	121.4	0	0.1	-0.1	-0.3
Buffalo, N. Y.	140.2	96.0	0	0	0.8	0
Denver, Colo.	112.1	69.2	0	0	0.2	0
Indianapolis, Ind.	155.2	86.6	0	0	0.8	0
Jacksonville, Fla.	146.9	100.2	0	0	-0.3	0
Kansas City, Mo.	129.1	66.7	0	0.2	1.2	0
Manchester, N. H.	158.2	99.0	0.6	0.3	1.6	4.7
Memphis, Tenn.	135.0	77.0	0	0	0.1	0
Minneapolis, Minn.	142.7	78.9	1.6	4.1	2.3	4.1
Mobile, Ala.	129.8	83.9	0	0	0.3	-0.1
Portland, Me.	154.9	108.4	0.3	-0.1	2.8	-0.1
Portland, Oreg.	129.4	95.1	0.2	0.1	1.3	0.2
Richmond, Va.	142.4	95.6	0	0	0.1	0
St. Louis, Mo.	135.7	88.4	-1.9	-6.1	-1.9	-6.1
Savannah, Ga.	154.6	101.5	-0.8	0	0.8	11.3
San Francisco, Calif.	83.1	72.7	0	0	0	0

* See General Explanation on page 3.

1875

Journal of the United States Fish Commission

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Date		Locality		Remarks	
Jan 1	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 2	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 3	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 4	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 5	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 6	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 7	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 8	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 9	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 10	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 11	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 12	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 13	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 14	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 15	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 16	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 17	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 18	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 19	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 20	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 21	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 22	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 23	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 24	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 25	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 26	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 27	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 28	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 29	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 30	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior
Jan 31	1875	Washington	D.C.	Received	from the Secretary of the Interior

Issued, Friday
January 28, 1949

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

Moffatt - 532

CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX AND RETAIL FOOD PRICES
December 15, 1948

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Consumers' Price Index and Retail Food Prices Continue to
Decline Between November 15 and December 15, 1948

FEB 14 1949

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

: This report combines information on the Consumers' :
: Price Index and the Retail Food Price Index. Final indexes :
: for December 15, 1948, for individual cities and large cities :
: combined are given herein. :

Retail prices of goods and services bought by moderate-income families in large cities declined 0.5 percent from November 15 to December 15, 1948, continuing the downward movement begun in October, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. The consumers' price index on December 15, at 171.4 percent of the 1935-39 average, was still 2.6 percent higher than a year ago, 29 percent over June 1946, and nearly 74 percent above the August 1939 level. Substantially lower food prices were again chiefly responsible for the decrease; prices of apparel dropped by one-half of one percent; fuel, and housefurnishings prices also declined fractionally. Rents rose by 0.6 percent.

During the course of 1948, consumer prices on the average advanced to a peak in August (174.5); between August and December the index declined 1.8 percent, largely because of lower food prices. Following declines in the first quarter, food prices rose to a peak in July and then decreased steadily, reaching a point by the year-end almost 1 percent below December 1947. Prices of other major groups rose with few interruptions until late in the year when some declines occurred for apparel and housefurnishings. In December 1948 indexes for groups other than foods ranged from 3 to 8 percent higher than at the end of 1947.

In December, food prices, declining for the fifth consecutive month, were 1.2 percent below November, and 5.4 percent below the July peak. The food index on December 15 was 205.0 percent of the 1935-39 average, 41 percent higher than in June 1946. Food prices averaged lower in 45 of the 56 cities surveyed, higher in 10, and unchanged in 1.

Most classes of foods contributed to the decrease, led by a more-than-seasonal drop of 11 percent in egg prices. Meat prices dropped 3.2 percent during the month as lower prices for beef, lamb, and most pork cuts more than offset sharp advances for salt pork. Pork chop prices dropped further to an average price of about 67 cents a pound. Fats and oils dropped 2.6 percent, led by decreases of more than 5 percent for lard and over 2 percent for margarine. Dairy products and sugar and sweets also were lower than a month ago. Fresh fruits and vegetables advanced 2 percent led by higher prices for sweetpotatoes, lettuce, cabbage, spinach, onions, and white potatoes. Prices of fresh green beans dropped almost 23 percent during the month. Prices of dried fruits and vegetables declined fractionally, and canned goods were unchanged on the average.

The apparel price index declined 0.5 percent between November 15 and December 15, as lower prices were reported for men's suits, business shirts, and pajamas, and women's coats and rayon dresses. Apparel prices were lower, on the average in December in all of the 10 cities surveyed in both November and December.

Housefurnishings prices declined fractionally (0.1 percent) during the month, reflecting scattered declines in furniture and textile furnishings.

The fuel, electricity, and refrigeration group index declined fractionally (0.1 percent) from mid-November to mid-December, interrupting a rise that has continued since June 1947. Lower rates for electricity in Boston more than offset increased rates in Atlanta. Other fuels were slightly lower on the average, and ice prices advanced 0.3 percent during the month.

The miscellaneous group index advanced slightly (0.1 percent) from November 15 to December 15, as higher prices for toilet and laundry soap more than offset slight reductions in gasoline prices.

Residential rents advanced on the average 0.6 percent from mid-November to mid-December. In the quarter ending December 15, rents rose 3.4 percent in Chicago, 2.5 percent in Minneapolis, and 1.2 percent in Memphis. Smaller increases over the quarter were reported in all other cities surveyed in December.

: On January 28, immediately upon completion of the calculations, :
: the Bureau released the December 1948 Consumers' Price Index for large :
: cities combined and for each of the 18 cities through the public press. :
: Because of the very large number of people on the Bureau's mailing list, :
: about a week is required to reproduce and distribute this detailed report. :"

GENERAL EXPLANATION

The "consumers' price index for moderate-income families in large cities," formerly known as the "cost of living index," measures average changes in retail prices of goods, rents and services bought by families of wage earners and moderate-income workers in large cities. Time-to-time changes in the prices of goods and services are weighted by 1934-36 average expenditures of families whose incomes averaged \$1524 in 1934-36. City data are combined for the United States with the use of population weights.

The indexes do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another.

Food prices are collected monthly in 56 cities during the first 3 days of the week which includes the fifteenth of the month.

Fuel prices are collected monthly in each of the 34 large cities. (Effective with the September release the group index formerly titled "Fuel, Electricity, and Ice" was designated "Fuel, Electricity, and Refrigeration." No change has been made in the items included in the group. Indexes are comparable with those previously published for "Fuel, Electricity, and Ice." The subgroup "Other Fuels and Ice" has been discontinued, and separate indexes will be presented for "Other Fuels" and "Ice.")

Prices of apparel, housefurnishings, and miscellaneous goods and services are obtained in 10 key cities each month and in 24 other large cities quarterly. Prices are collected for 8 of the 24 quarterly cities each month. The schedule for pricing commodities and services in individual cities is as follows:

<u>Every Month</u>	<u>January, April, July, October</u>	<u>February, May, August, November</u>	<u>March, June, September, December</u>
Birmingham	Buffalo	Atlanta	Baltimore
Boston	Denver	Cleveland	Jacksonville
Chicago	Indianapolis	Milwaukee	Memphis
Cincinnati	Kansas City	New Orleans	Minneapolis
Detroit	Manchester	Norfolk	Mobile
Houston	Portland, Oreg.	Scranton	Portland, Me.
Los Angeles	Richmond	Seattle	St. Louis
New York	Savannah	Washington	San Francisco
Philadelphia			
Pittsburgh			

Rental information is obtained quarterly in each city. The Bureau of Labor Statistics obtains its figures on rents by asking tenants in a representative sample of dwellings what rent they pay and what facilities and services are included in the rent. The samples are chosen to represent all tenant dwellings, new and old, small and large, single homes and apartments. The rents, so reported, are then compared with those reported by the tenants for the same dwellings at the time of the last rent survey, after adjustments are made for any changes in the facilities (e.g., heat) and services (e.g., janitor service) included in the rent. Removal of facilities and services without compensating reductions in rent are treated as rent increases. When facilities or services not previously included in the contract rent are added, if the rent is increased in excess of the value of the additional items, the excess charge is reflected as a rent increase. Just as in the case of the other groups (food, apparel, etc.) of the consumers' price index, the rent index measures changes

in the rent paid for the same dwellings from one time to another, not the amount of money which families spend for housing. For example, it does not reflect the costs of repairs made by tenants, the change in housing costs of workers who have migrated or moved to better or poorer quarters, nor does it take into account deterioration in upkeep or service, or the additional costs of "extras" or premiums charged by some landlords when they rent to new tenants. A representation of new and converted units is added to the rent samples periodically and thereafter rent changes for these units are reflected in the index as they occur. The index is not adjusted to reflect the differences between the rents at which newly constructed or converted dwellings enter the rental market and the rents for comparable existing housing. The rent index measures only changes in rents, and does not reflect the costs of shifting from renting to owning, or changes in the costs of buying or maintaining owner-occupied homes.

Tables in the release contain index numbers for the current and other specified periods and show percent changes to the current period from specified dates.

Table 1 shows indexes for all items combined, groups and subgroups for large cities combined, for the current period, a month ago, 3 months ago, a year ago, June 1946 and August 1939.

Table 2 shows percent changes to the current period for indexes given in Table 1.

Table 3 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the month and over the quarter for each of 10 cities surveyed monthly.

Table 4 shows current indexes for all items combined and groups, and percent changes over the quarter for each of 8 cities surveyed quarterly.

Table 5 shows indexes for all items combined for specified periods and percent changes to the current period from specified dates for 18 cities surveyed this month.

Table 6 shows current U.S. average prices for 49 food items.

Table 7 shows food price indexes for the current period, a month ago and 3 months ago, and corresponding percent changes for 38 cities for which only food price data are collected or for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

Table 8 shows fuel price indexes for the current period and percent changes to the current period from a month ago and 3 months ago for 18 cities for which complete price surveys were not made this month.

TABLE 1 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
FOR SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS
(1935-39 = 100.0)

Group	Dec. 15 1948	Nov. 15 1948	Sept. 15 1948	Dec. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	171.4	172.2	174.5	167.0	133.3	98.6
ALL FOODS	205.0	207.5	215.2	206.9	145.6	93.5
Cereals & bakery products	170.2	169.9	170.7	170.5	122.1	93.4
Meats, poultry & fish	241.3	246.7	265.3	227.3	134.0	95.7
Meats	235.4	243.1	265.9	223.2	120.4	95.4
Beef & veal	255.1	262.4	280.8	227.6	121.2	99.6
Pork	206.2	214.4	247.9	218.2	114.3	88.0
Lamb	238.6	246.5	256.6	221.5	139.0	98.8
Chickens	208.0	200.5	209.4	190.7	162.8	94.6
Fish	328.1	328.1	314.9	302.3	219.7	99.6
Dairy products	199.2	199.5	208.7	204.9	147.8	93.1
Eggs	217.3	244.3	226.6	236.1	147.1	90.7
Fruits & vegetables	192.3	189.4	195.8	205.3	183.5	92.4
Fresh	196.2	192.4	199.6	212.1	196.7	92.8
Canned	159.4	159.4	159.0	157.3	127.5	91.6
Dried	229.8	230.6	249.1	255.4	172.5	90.3
Beverages	207.8	206.4	205.6	198.5	125.4	94.9
Fats & oils	184.4	189.4	196.8	208.2	126.4	84.3
Sugar & sweets	173.0	173.3	173.2	183.7	136.2	95.6
APPAREL	200.4	201.4	201.0	191.2	157.2	100.3
RENT	119.5	118.8	118.5	115.4	108.5	104.3
FUEL, ELEC. & REFRIGERATION*	137.8	137.9	137.3	127.8	110.5	97.5
Gas & electricity	95.3	95.4	94.6	92.6	92.1	99.0
Other fuels	191.3	191.6	191.0	171.1	133.0	95.2
Ice	138.4	138.0	137.6	129.8	115.1	100.0
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	198.6	198.7	198.1	191.4	156.1	100.6
MISCELLANEOUS	154.0	153.9	152.7	144.4	127.9	100.4

*See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 2 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE-INCOME
FAMILIES FOR LARGE CITIES COMBINED*, AND PERCENT
CHANGES TO DECEMBER 15, 1948 FROM SPECIFIED DATES, BY GROUPS

Group	Nov. 15 1948	Sept. 15 1948	Dec. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
ALL ITEMS	-0.5	-1.8	2.6	28.6	73.8
ALL FOODS	-1.2	-4.7	-0.9	40.8	119.3
Cereals & bakery products	0.2	-0.3	-0.2	39.4	82.2
Meats, poultry & fish	-2.2	-9.0	6.2	80.1	152.1
Meats	-3.2	-11.5	5.5	95.5	146.8
Beef & veal	-2.8	-9.2	12.1	110.5	156.1
Pork	-3.8	-16.8	-5.5	80.4	134.3
Lamb	-3.2	-7.0	7.7	71.7	141.5
Chickens	3.7	-0.7	9.1	27.8	119.9
Fish	0	4.2	8.5	49.3	229.4
Dairy products	-0.2	-4.6	-2.8	34.8	114.0
Eggs	-11.1	-4.1	-8.0	47.7	139.6
Fruits & vegetables	1.5	-1.8	-6.3	4.8	108.1
Fresh	2.0	-1.7	-7.5	-0.3	111.4
Canned	0	0.3	1.3	25.0	74.0
Dried	-0.3	-7.7	-10.0	33.2	154.5
Beverages	0.7	1.1	4.7	65.7	119.0
Fats & oils	-2.6	-6.3	-11.4	45.9	118.2
Sugar & sweets	-0.2	-0.1	-5.8	27.0	81.0
APPAREL	-0.5	-0.3	4.8	27.5	99.8
RENT	0.6	0.8	3.6	10.1	14.6
FUEL, ELEC. & REFRIGERATION*	-0.1	0.4	7.8	24.7	41.3
Gas & electricity	-0.1	0.7	2.9	3.5	-3.7
Other fuels	-0.2	0.2	11.8	43.8	100.9
Ice	0.3	0.6	6.6	20.2	38.4
HOUSEFURNISHINGS	-0.1	0.3	3.8	27.2	97.4
MISCELLANEOUS	0.1	0.9	6.6	20.4	53.4

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 3 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 10 CITIES*
SURVEYED MONTHLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM NOVEMBER 15 AND
SEPTEMBER 15, 1948 TO DECEMBER 15, 1948 BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Refrigeration*		House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity		
December 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)								
Birmingham, Ala.	174.8	204.8	207.4	-	135.6	79.6	193.0	150.0
Boston, Mass.	164.7	194.2	192.1	115.2	154.8	116.9	193.0	146.1
Chicago, Ill.	175.4	208.2	202.4	138.3	131.4	83.5	186.0	155.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	172.2	205.2	196.1	115.1	145.7	101.9	193.5	154.5
Detroit, Mich.	172.8	198.7	198.3	-	150.4	87.1	206.7	166.7
Houston, Texas	173.8	218.1	211.0	-	99.4	81.5	198.5	153.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	172.7	214.9	194.8	-	94.0	89.3	189.0	154.1
New York, N.Y.	169.2	204.3	200.7	-	133.3	100.8	187.4	159.6
Philadelphia, Pa.	170.6	199.3	195.5	-	142.6	103.0	201.7	152.6
Pittsburgh, Pa.	174.9	208.0	234.1	-	139.7	103.3	205.4	148.5
Percent Changes from November 15, 1948								
Birmingham, Ala.	-0.1	-0.3	-0.7	-	0	0	0.2	0.5
Boston, Mass.	-1.2	-2.5	-0.4	-	-0.8	-1.9	-0.1	-0.1
Chicago, Ill.	-0.3	-1.7	-0.4	-	-0.1	0	0.3	-0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	-0.9	-2.0	-0.9	-	0.4	0	0.2	0
Detroit, Mich.	-0.2	-0.6	-0.1	-	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	0.2
Houston, Texas	-0.1	0.2	-0.6	-	-0.3	-0.5	-0.2	-0.1
Los Angeles, Calif.	0.3	0.6	-0.4	-	0	0	-0.1	0.5
New York, N. Y.	-1.1	-2.1	-0.7	-	-0.1	0	-0.4	0.1
Philadelphia, Pa.	-0.6	-1.3	-0.3	-	0	0	-0.4	0.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-0.6	-1.4	-0.2	-	0.6	0	-0.1	0.3
Percent Changes from September 15, 1948								
Birmingham, Ala.	-2.1	-5.3	-0.8	-	0	0	0.5	0.5
Boston, Mass.	-2.5	-6.3	-0.1	0.5	1.2	3.9	1.9	1.0
Chicago, Ill.	-2.2	-6.0	-0.6	3.4	-0.1	0	1.4	0.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	-2.3	-5.9	-1.0	0.9	2.8	7.2	1.7	0.4
Detroit, Mich.	-1.5	-4.3	-0.1	-	-0.1	-0.2	0.1	0.1
Houston, Texas	-0.9	-2.5	-1.0	-	-0.2	-0.4	0.1	0.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	1.0	1.3	0.2	-	0	0	0	1.3
New York, N. Y.	-2.4	-5.5	-1.1	-	0	0.2	-0.1	1.7
Philadelphia, Pa.	-2.4	-6.0	0.3	-	0	0	-1.4	1.7
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-1.9	-5.2	0.6	-	0.6	-0.1	0.2	1.3

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 4 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 8 CITIES*
SURVEYED QUARTERLY AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM SEPTEMBER 15, 1948
TO DECEMBER 15, 1948, BY CITIES AND MAJOR GROUPS

City	All Items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, Elec. & Refrigeration*		House- furnish- ings	Miscel- laneous
					Total	Gas & Elect- ricity		
December 15, 1948 Indexes (1935-39 = 100)								
Baltimore, Md.	174.0	214.6	198.3	116.5	148.3	122.0	201.9	149.4
Jacksonville, Fla.	176.2	209.9	198.1	127.7	146.8	100.2	190.7	159.6
Memphis, Tenn.	174.3	217.9	210.5	129.5	135.0	77.0	182.6	141.5
Minneapolis, Minn.	170.8	195.6	204.2	129.8	142.8	78.9	191.7	159.5
Mobile, Ala.	173.5	211.8	203.5	125.9	129.8	84.0	173.2	145.3
Portland, Me.	167.1	195.0	200.2	113.3	154.0	108.5	193.4	152.0
St. Louis, Mo.	171.1	212.2	201.4	119.7	135.7	88.4	175.4	145.3
San Francisco, Calif.	176.7	221.1	196.0	115.9	82.8	72.7	169.6	164.2
Percent Changes from September 15, 1948								
Baltimore, Md.	-2.9	-6.2	-1.2	0.8	0.2	0.6	-0.8	0.3
Jacksonville, Fla.	-1.6	-4.3	0.2	0.5	-0.1	0	2.4	-0.3
Memphis, Tenn.	-1.6	-4.3	0	1.2	0	0	1.1	0.1
Minneapolis, Minn.	-1.7	-5.0	-0.8	2.5	2.3	4.1	-1.8	-0.3
Mobile, Ala.	-2.1	-4.6	-1.5	0.3	0	0	-0.2	0.1
Portland, Me.	-2.1	-5.8	-0.2	0.8	-0.3	0	1.2	0.7
St. Louis, Mo.	-2.2	-4.8	-0.4	0.1	-1.9	-6.1	0.3	0.3
San Francisco, Calif.	-0.2	-1.4	-0.4	0.5	-0.4	0	2.7	1.1

TABLE 5 - CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEXES FOR 18 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES TO DECEMBER 15, 1948 FROM
SPECIFIED DATES, BY CITIES

City	Indexes, 1935-39 = 100				Percent Change to December 15, 1948 from		
	Dec. 15 1948	Dec. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939	Dec. 15 1947	June 15 1946	Aug. 15 1939
AVERAGE	171.4	167.0	133.3	98.6	2.6	28.6	73.8
Baltimore, Md.	174.0	171.3	135.6	98.7	1.6	28.3	76.3
Birmingham, Ala.	174.8	173.8	136.5	98.5	0.6	28.1	77.5
Boston, Mass.	164.7	160.4	127.9	97.1	2.7	28.8	69.6
Chicago, Ill.	175.4	170.1	130.9	98.7	3.1	34.0	77.7
Cincinnati, Ohio	172.2	170.3	122.2	97.3	1.1	30.3	77.0
Detroit, Mich.	172.8	169.0	136.4	98.5	2.2	26.7	75.4
Houston, Texas	173.8	169.3	130.5	100.7	2.7	33.2	72.6
Jacksonville, Fla.	176.2	173.9	138.4	98.5	1.3	27.3	78.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	172.7	166.0	136.1	100.5	4.0	26.9	71.8
Memphis, Tenn.	174.3	173.5	134.5	97.8	0.5	29.6	78.2
Minneapolis, Minn.	170.8	166.2	129.4	99.7	2.8	32.0	71.3
Mobile, Ala.	173.5	170.3	132.9	98.6	1.9	30.5	76.0
New York, N. Y.	169.2	164.9	135.8	99.0	2.6	24.6	70.9
Philadelphia, Pa.	170.6	166.3	132.5	97.8	2.6	28.8	74.4
Pittsburgh, Pa.	174.9	170.2	134.7	98.4	2.8	29.8	77.7
Portland, Me.	167.1	162.0	128.7	97.1	3.1	29.8	72.1
St. Louis, Mo.	171.1	167.9	131.2	98.1	1.9	30.4	74.4
San Francisco, Calif.	176.7	168.9	137.8	99.3	4.6	28.2	77.9

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 6 - AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN LARGE CITIES COMBINED*,
DECEMBER 15, 1948

Food and Unit	Dec. 15 Average Cents	Food and Unit	Dec. 15 Average Cents
CEREALS AND BAKERY PRODUCTS		EGGS, fresh, doz.	
Cereals:			75.2
Flour, wheat, 5 lb.	17.9	FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:	
Corn flakes, 11 oz.	16.8	Fresh:	
Corn meal, lb.	10.0	Apples, lb.	12.6
Rice, lb.	19.2	Bananas, lb.	16.3
Rolled oats, 20 oz.	17.2	Oranges, size 200 doz.	43.4
Bakery products:		Beans, green, lb.	18.9
Bread, white, lb.	13.9	Cabbage, lb.	5.4
Vanilla cookies, lb.	45.0	Carrots, bunch	9.9
		Lettuce, head	14.1
		Onions, lb.	6.5
MEATS:		Potatoes, 15 lb.	74.8
Beef:		Spinach, lb.	11.7
Round steak, lb.	88.3	Sweetpotatoes, lb.	10.3
Rib roast, lb.	72.9	Canned:	
Chuck roast, lb.	62.1	Peaches, #2-1/2 can	32.4
Hamburger, lb.	56.2	Pineapple, #2-1/2 can	39.5
Veal:		Corn, #2 can	19.9
Cutlets, lb.	99.2	Peas, #2 can	15.3
Pork:		Tomatoes, #2 can	16.2
Chops, lb.	67.4	Dried:	
Bacon, sliced, lb.	74.6	Prunes, lb.	22.1
Ham, whole, lb.	65.6	Navy beans, lb.	18.1
Salt pork, lb.	44.2		
Lamb:		BEVERAGES:	
Leg, lb.	68.8	Coffee, lb.	52.1
Poultry:			
Roasting chickens, lb.	62.8	FATS AND OILS:	
Fish:		Lard, lb.	27.0
Salmon, pink, 16 oz. can	61.1	Shortening, hydrogenated, lb.	42.0
DAIRY PRODUCTS:		Salad, dressing, pt.	39.4
Butter, lb.	75.6	Oleomargarine, lb.	38.0
Cheese, lb.	64.2	SUGAR AND SWEETS:	
Milk, fresh (delivered), qt.	22.6	Sugar, lb.	9.3
Milk, fresh (grocery), qt.	21.3		
Milk, evaporated, 14-1/2 oz. can	14.8		

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 7 - RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDEXES FOR 38 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM NOVEMBER 15 AND SEPTEMBER 15, 1948
TO DECEMBER 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Indexes (1935-39 = 100)			Percent Change to December 15, 1948 from	
	Dec. 15 1948	Nov. 15 1948	Sept. 15 1948	Nov. 15 1948	Sept. 15 1948
Atlanta, Ga.	203.3	205.9	214.2	-1.3	-5.1
Bridgeport, Conn.	201.0	205.9	212.7	-2.4	-5.5
Buffalo, N. Y.	200.0	201.6	210.1	-0.8	-4.8
Butte, Mont.	205.7	209.3	214.5	-1.7	-4.1
Cedar Rapids, Iowa <u>1/</u>	211.8	214.4	220.2	-1.2	-3.8
Charleston, S. C.	197.1	198.9	207.7	-0.9	-5.1
Cleveland, Ohio	213.0	217.0	225.6	-1.8	-5.6
Columbus, Ohio	189.4	193.1	200.8	-1.9	-5.7
Dallas, Texas	208.2	212.7	217.3	-2.1	-4.2
Denver, Colo.	211.0	207.7	210.5	+1.6	+0.2
Fall River, Mass.	200.4	202.5	211.6	-1.0	-5.3
Indianapolis, Ind.	204.8	206.8	216.0	-1.0	-5.2
Jackson, Miss. <u>1/</u>	213.8	212.7	220.7	+0.5	-3.1
Kansas City, Mo.	194.7	198.5	204.4	-1.9	-4.7
Knoxville, Tenn. <u>1/</u>	233.9	233.9	241.6	0	-3.2
Little Rock, Ark.	201.6	202.4	212.0	-0.4	-4.9
Louisville, Ky.	196.6	198.9	207.2	-1.2	-5.1
Manchester, N. H.	203.6	204.8	215.5	-0.6	-5.5
Milwaukee, Wisc.	205.0	207.5	216.3	-1.2	-5.2
Newark, N. J.	201.2	203.9	211.1	-1.3	-4.7
New Haven, Conn.	194.5	199.6	205.3	-2.6	-5.3
New Orleans, La.	216.1	218.0	227.7	-0.9	-5.1
Norfolk, Va.	209.8	211.8	220.2	-0.9	-4.7
Omaha, Nebr.	203.1	205.6	210.3	-1.2	-3.4
Peoria, Ill.	216.8	218.0	230.3	-0.6	-5.9
Portland, Oreg.	223.5	222.9	231.4	+0.3	-3.4
Providence, R. I.	209.2	211.7	223.8	-1.2	-6.5
Richmond, Va.	201.5	203.6	214.1	-1.0	-5.9
Rochester, N. Y.	196.5	196.7	207.3	-0.1	-5.2
St. Paul, Minn.	192.1	194.8	203.1	-1.4	-5.4
Salt Lake City, Utah	209.8	208.8	214.7	+0.5	-2.3
Savannah, Ga.	216.0	215.0	222.4	+0.5	-2.9
Scranton, Pa.	201.1	202.8	213.2	-0.8	-5.7
Seattle, Wash.	211.8	213.4	221.0	-0.7	-4.2
Springfield, Ill.	214.4	215.2	226.4	-0.4	-5.3
Washington, D. C.	201.8	203.5	212.9	-0.8	-5.2
Wichita, Kans. <u>1/</u>	220.4	222.2	223.0	-0.8	-1.2
Winston-Salem, N. C. <u>1/</u>	206.6	206.1	215.6	+0.2	-4.2

1/ June 1940 = 100.

* See General Explanation on page 3.

TABLE 8 - INDEXES OF RETAIL PRICES OF FUELS, ELECTRICITY AND REFRIGERATION
FOR 16 CITIES*
AND PERCENT CHANGES FROM NOVEMBER 15 AND SEPTEMBER 15, 1948
TO DECEMBER 15, 1948, BY CITIES

City	Index Dec. 15, 1948 (1935-39 = 100)		Percent Change to Dec. 15, 1948 from			
	Total	Gas & Elec.	November 15, 1948		September 15, 1948	
			Total	Gas & Elec.	Total	Gas & Elec.
Atlanta, Ga.	151.2	83.3	2.0	8.2	2.0	8.3
Buffalo, N. Y.	140.2	96.0	0	0	0	0
Cleveland, Ohio	145.1	105.6	0	0	0.3	0
Denver, Colo.	112.1	69.2	0	0	-0.4	0
Indianapolis, Ind.	155.2	86.6	0	0	0.4	0
Kansas City, Mo.	129.0	66.5	-0.1	-0.3	1.1	-0.3
Manchester, N. H.	156.9	99.3	-0.8	0.3	0.8	5.0
Milwaukee, Wisc.	145.8	104.5	0	0	0.2	0
New Orleans, La.	113.4	75.1	0	0	0.4	0
Norfolk, Va.	149.9	102.6	0	0	1.4	4.9
Portland, Oreg.	130.6	95.6	0.9	0.5	1.0	0.3
Richmond, Va.	142.4	95.6	0	0	0.1	0
Savannah, Ga.	153.4	101.5	-0.8	0	-1.5	0
Scranton, Pa.	144.7	91.8	0	0	0	0
Seattle, Wash.	126.4	91.5	-0.1	0	1.8	0
Washington, D. C.	137.5	98.6	-0.1	0	0.1	0

* See General Explanation on page 3.

